



CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE



Grayling Bands...1B

Impact study called on for possible North Down/I-75 interchange

► Potential project still bringing out differing viewpoints

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

Opinions regarding a potential four-way interchange project at North Down River Road continue to differ.

The Road Commission for Crawford County hosted another meeting on the North Down interchange subject earlier this month, at which representatives of local governments, committees, organizations, and businesses gathered to offer input into the planning process.

(MDOT has asked Grayling to put together a community partnership and package of support with regard to the project.)

The meeting's facilitator, the Road Commission Board, had discussed the North Down interchange

issue at length the day before.

The Road Commission's consulting engineer firm, Northwest Design Group (NDG), presented the board with cost estimates for work the Road Commission could do as part of the support package, work that will need to be completed along with the proposed North Down/I-75 interchange.

North Down, Isenhauer Road, Glenn Road, Orbit Lane, Heather Lane, and Beaver Island Road would all need work. Also, the bridge on North Down River Road near the Fish Hatchery needs to be replaced.

The price tag for all of it: \$2.6 million.

"We believe that the scope of work included in these cost estimates are sufficient to provide a very high quality product," NDG stated in its report. "It is possible

Continued on Page 3A

See "Impact study called on..."

Road Board awards bids for timber bridge project

► Lewiston Grade Road bridge over East Branch to be replaced this July

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

The Road Commission for Crawford County awarded the bids last Thursday for the Lewiston Grade Road timber bridge project.

The bridge construction, which will replace a structure located on Lewiston Grade near Hartwick Pines, was bid out in two separate contracts.

The first contract, which involves demolition of the existing bridge and constructing the substructure of the new timber bridge, was awarded

to Kal Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$59,310.

The second contract, for providing the bridge materials, was awarded to Woodstock, Inc. with a low bid of \$15,795.

Completion dates for the two contracts are: July 9 for contract two (materials delivery), and July 16 for contract one (demolition and substructure construction).

Once the two contractors have finished, Road Commission crews will construct the top portion of the new timber bridge.

On the recommendation of Northwest Design Group, the Road Commission's consulting engineer firm, Road Board Vice-Chairman John Hartman moved to accept the low bids for the two contracts. The motion passed 3-0.

School Board seat up for election

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

One four-year term on the Crawford AuSable School Board is up for grabs in June and the filing deadline for candidacy in the election draws near.

Crawford AuSable School Board President Marilyn Rosi has yet to decide whether she will run for reelection on the June 12 School Election ballot.

Rosi said she really hasn't had much time to consider the race because she has been busy with ongoing teachers' contract negotia-

tions. She said it will be a tough decision with all the changes coming to the district, including a search for a new superintendent within the next two years as Kent Reynolds nears his retirement date.

Anyone wishing to run for the seat must file a nominating petition and an Affidavit of Identity with the Board by April 10.

Prospective candidates can pick up petitions and affidavit forms at the School Board office located at 403 Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Offices hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

GHS Players provide haunting experience

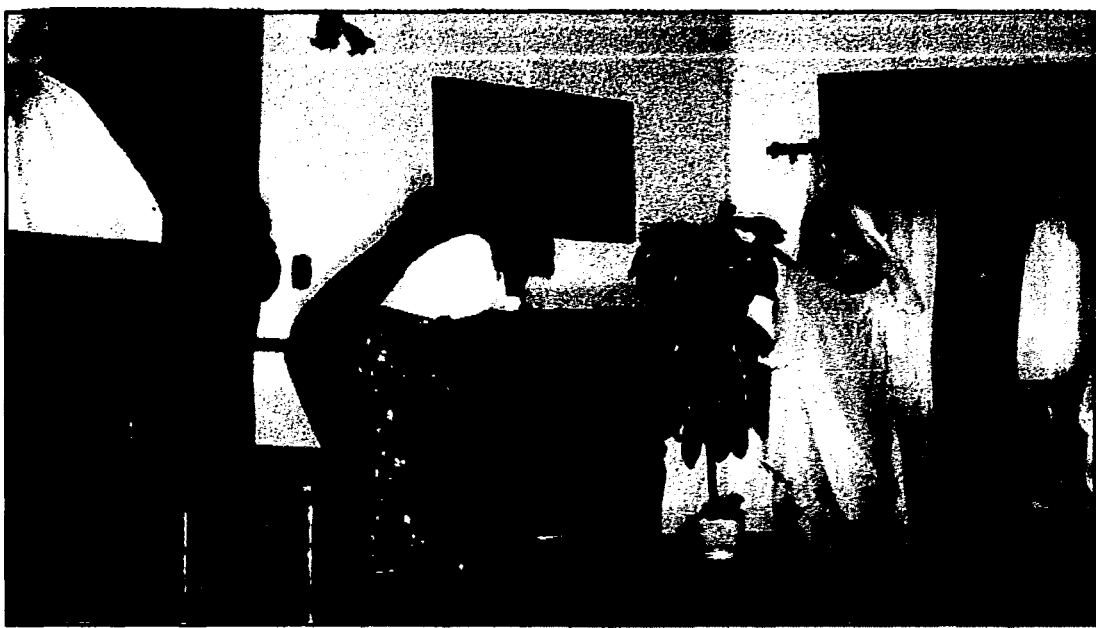


Photo by Cheryl Ruley

Last week, the GHS Players put on three performances of ghost story, *The Uninvited* in the Stripe Auditorium. Shown are Sarah Carmean, John McNamara and Heidi Niederer being frightened by the ghost of Cliff End, played by Cheryl Papendick. For more photos of the production, see Page 13A.

GHS Building Trades class may build new Frederic Township Hall

► Project still only a concept, but class may build if Frederic supplies materials

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

A new township hall may be built in Frederic -- by the Grayling High School Building Trades class.

At the Frederic Township Board's March meeting, Trustee and Zoning Administrator Mike Girard presented the proposal to the other board

members: the GHS Building Trades class will build the structure if Frederic Township supplies the materials.

The potential project is still only in the "feasibility" and planning stage right now, Girard noted. It may or may not become a reality.

Board members agreed that it could be a unique opportunity for the township, and the proposal deserves a careful look.

The current township hall is in need of renovations, Girard said, which could cost the township about \$45,000. Specifically, the hall

needs a new roof, a better heating system, and handicap accessibility.

The Frederic Township Hall is made mainly of concrete and many of the building's characteristics would make adding handicap accessibility a difficult and expensive task.

For the township to purchase the materials for a new building, it would cost Frederic about \$60,000, Girard said.

The preliminary plans for the structure include four offices, two

Continued on Page 10A

See "Building Trades..."

Three GMS students expelled

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

The Crawford AuSable School Board has taken action in the case of seven Grayling Middle School students and misuse of the prescription drug Ritalin.

Three of the seven were expelled from school for 30 days because of their involvement in the distribution of the drug to other students. In addition to the expulsion, the Board saw fit to require the students to receive drug counseling and perform community service.

Legal action is not expected to be taken against the juveniles.

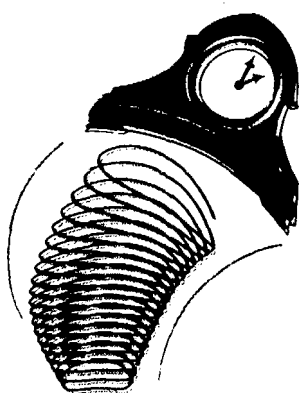
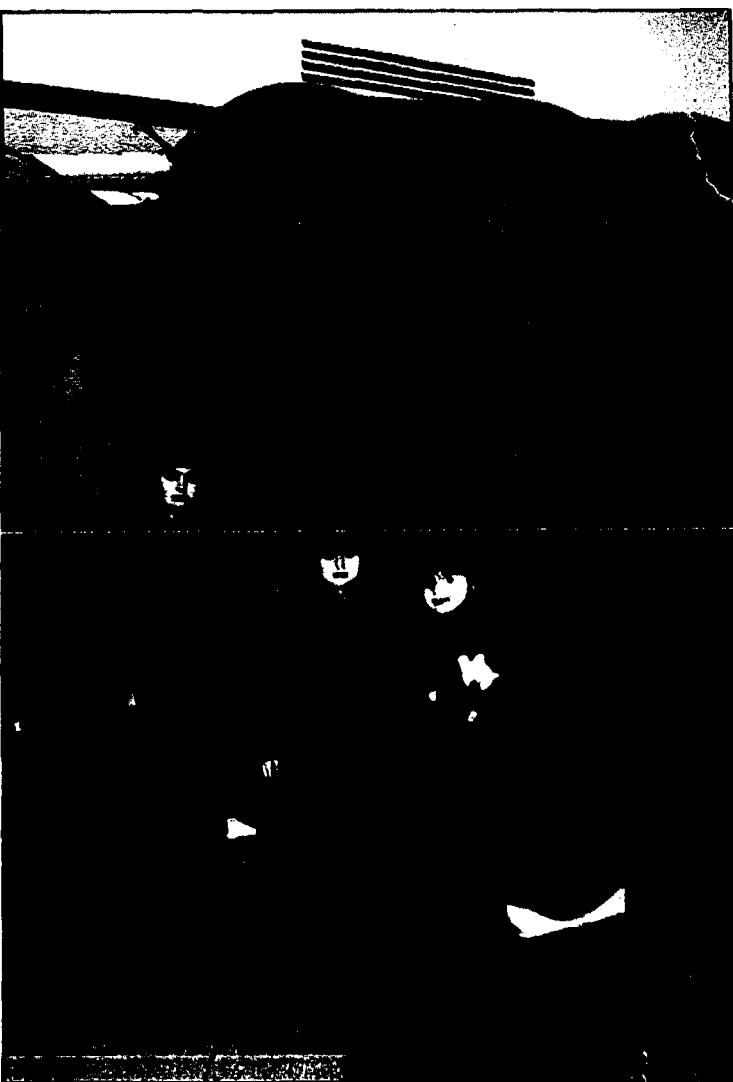
School Superintendent Kent Reynolds said Board action has been taken against the other four students involved in the incident, but would not specify what part they played or what action was taken.

Reynolds said unlike the case in Bellaire where Ritalin was stolen from a locked school office, the Grayling Middle School incident did not involve prescription drugs meant to be dispensed through school administration. "No prescription drugs were found missing from the school office," said Reynolds.

Pioneer days explored during Reading Month

March is Reading Month and "Pioneer Days" is the theme for this year at AuSable and Grayling Elementary Schools. Shown at right are Nic and Katie Fitzpatrick along with Machayla Hall-Gorski. The kids seemed to enjoy having the covered pioneer wagon on display at the AuSable Primary School. All month long, students have participated in many interesting activities, including study of the history of Grayling, the AuSable River, Hartwick Pines and the lumbering era. On March 21, the parents group sponsored an old fashioned cook-out and a square dance. Also, Acting Up Theatre Company presented "Reading on the Wagon Train."

Photo courtesy of Cheryl Minkin



Spring ahead this weekend!

It's that time of year again when we turn the clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Savings Time, which officially begins at 2 a.m. on April 2

Library board unveils concept of new building . . . 2A
High gas prices shouldn't effect local tourism. . . . 3A
GHS wrestler wins State Girls Championship 2B
Barrel horse racer makes World Championship . . . 2B
Senior Perspective 7B

Crawford County Avalanche

Business Directory. . 7-9B
Church Directory . . . 6A
Classifieds. 9-12B
Facts & Features . . . 8B
Legal Notices 5-6B
Opinions. 4A
Sports & Rec 1-5B
Obits 11-12A

Shelter shed gets much needed rehab



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Photo by Cheryl Ruley

SHED RESCUE — After a photo appeared in the *Avalanche* last month, showing the deterioration of the Animal Shelter's storage shed, Four Seasons Maintenance came to the rescue. The shed was completely rehabbed last week by owner Tom Force (right) and his work partner Rocky Brown (left), all free of charge. Force said materials and labor donated amounted to about \$800. Over the years, Force has done charitable work for a women's shelter, senior citizens, churches, and others in great need of assistance. He said he has also worked on the governor's residence in Lansing. Force told Shelter Director Dixie Lobsinger he is willing to do periodic minor repairs as the need arises. The shed is used to store pet food and supplies. Also in the photo is Shelter worker Chuck Stott (center).

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Library board unveils concept of new building proposal

► Design for new library building is only in the 'concept' phase right now

Submitted by Crawford County Library, Board of Directors

At a public hearing held Thursday, March 9, the Board of Directors of the Crawford County Library presented their idea of what a new library should look like.

The design, although still in the concept stage, is getting close to what will be presented to county taxpayers when they are asked to approve a bond issue on August 8, according to Board President Terry Wright. The cost of the building is expected to be in the vicinity of \$1.3 to \$1.5 million.

The name of the proposed library will be the "Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library," in honor of former summer residents Richard and Adeline Devereaux, through a donation of \$500,000 from their daughter, Leslie Devereaux. Her donation, contingent on passage of the bond issue, has allowed the library board to reduce its bond request for the construction, outfitting and future operation of the new facility.

"Our approach to this building's design," Wright said, "has been to concentrate on simple practicality. This proposal is very modest. There are no unwarranted frills or luxuries."

The proposed one-story design shows a building of 10,800 square feet which features a multi-purpose room and large book, magazine,

video display and study areas for adults, as well as separate but similar children's areas.

The children's area also includes a small, sunken stage for reading and educational programs. By design, library employees have been given a large work area and storage room. And, unlike the current library, the proposed building has been designed to be in complete compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The concept drawing shows room for up to 24 computer stations, if needed. Other plans call for doubling the current book collection.

The exterior of the building is expected to be a masonry product. The roof will be of offset gable construction to allow high windows for extra lighting. The main entry will be covered by an awning which will allow drive through book return service.

Wright said, "This building should meet the library needs of the community for many years."

The present 3,000-square foot library building was built in the mid-1960s through a county-wide millage. At that time, population of Crawford County was approximately 5,000 persons. The 2000 Census is expected to reveal more than 14,000 residents and an average growth prediction of 16 percent each decade.

By 2030, the population of Crawford County is expected to exceed 22,000. Wright said the new library building should be able to

serve that many people.

The library presentation included a plan to upgrade the two present branch libraries in Frederic and Lovells, and the Board announced that a new branch library in Beaver Creek would be opening within the next two months.

"We're presently analyzing the needs of the branch libraries," Wright said, "and this is a perfect time to spend whatever it takes to bring their service capabilities to a par with the main library."

Although final costs can't be determined until after the election, the library board has been working with financial and bond counseling services through Crawford County to develop the wording and estimated costs which will appear on the August 8 ballot. Wright said he expects local taxes to go up by less than one-half mill, per property, if the proposal is approved.

Library Board members expressed their eagerness to promote the building project and said they are always available to make the presentation to any individual or groups.

To arrange a new library presentation, the public is urged to call a Library Board member, or make arrangements through Library Director Tracie Compton by phoning (517) 348-9214.

The Crawford County Library Board of Directors consists of Sharon Hartman, Ray Priebe, Jr., Judy Hammond, Terry Wright and Barbara Greene.

North Higgins Lake Road to benefit from safety grant

► \$180,000 MDOT grant will help Road Commission rebuild road's S-curves

A safety grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation was recently awarded to the Road Commission for Crawford County for the purpose of improving a portion of North Higgins Lake Road.

The Road Commission applied for safety funds for two segments of North Higgins Lake Road last year: 1) from the intersection of Oak Road westerly 0.42 miles to the new pavement; and 2) from the intersection of Oak Road easterly 2.0 miles to the intersection of South Grayling Road.

Segment one was funded by the recently-awarded safety grant. Proposed work includes reconstruction of the existing S-curves and five side road intersections that meet North Higgins Lake Road within the S-curves. Work will include realigning the main line to increase design speed, and to give the two curves similar radius, width, elevation, and length. Low volume side road intersections will be realigned, channelized, and orga-

nized to improve sight distance and efficiency.

The proposed improvements will likely reduce the number and severity of accidents by eliminating hazards along this segment of North Higgins Lake Road, Road Commission management believes.

Cost for the project is estimated at \$216,000. The safety grant covers \$180,000, 80 percent of the project costs. The Road Commission is responsible for the other 20 percent.

The Road Commission has previously completed preliminary engineering, and a right-of-way application process through the Department of Natural Resources is currently underway. Construction plans are being completed.

The Road Commission plans to commence and complete construction this year.

Several individuals and organizations provided support to the successful grant application. Road Commission officials noted that Beaver Creek Township and State Representatives Rick Johnson and Ken Bradstreet were especially helpful.

The Road Commission plans to reapply for funds for segment two of North Higgins Lake Road this fall.

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High gas prices shouldn't effect local tourism

by Eric Lacy
Capital News Service

LANSING — Gas prices have dropped for two weeks in a row, totaling a 7.7 cent decrease, giving Michigan drivers hope that prices will improve for their summer vacations.

"If the gas prices remain as high as I think they will, more people will stay closer to home," said Jim Rink of the Michigan branch of the Automobile Association of America (AAA). "We think that people will want to vacation more within the state." And that may be good news for Crawford County.

Tourism in Crawford County should not be hurt by higher gas prices according to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

"A lot of people go to cottages and golf courses in that area, so the traffic should still remain the same," said Bill Shreck, a regional transportation representative at the

department. "All we know is that traffic is getting heavier and heavier throughout the state."

Higher gas prices could benefit tourist accommodations and attractions in popular areas across the state, according to the Grayling Chamber of Commerce.

"At this time we think the high gas prices may help tourism," said Tim Zigala, the deputy director. "There could be less people in the state traveling 100 miles or more for vacation trips."

The AAA of Michigan's weekly "Fuel Gauge" survey shows the state average for self-serve unleaded fuel is \$1.535 per gallon.

"I don't think the Legislature is going to do anything about gas prices," said House Minority Leader Mike Hanley (D-Saginaw). "What we could do is decrease the gas tax once it hits a certain price, but I don't necessarily think that's a good policy."

So, you think gas prices are high...

Product	Price per gallon
Diet Snapple	\$10.32
Lipton Ice Tea	\$9.52
Gatorade	\$10.24
Ocean Spray	\$10.00
Quart of Milk	\$6.36
STP Brake Fluid	\$33.61
Vick's Nyquil	\$178.11
Pepto Bismol	\$123.20
Liquid Paper	\$254.18
Scope	\$84.48
Evian Water	\$21.19

Critics of a gas tax cut say that would eliminate money essential for road repairs and maintenance.

The all-time state high for self-serve unleaded fuel occurred on

March 6 when prices rose to an average of \$1.616 per gallon.

"The main reason why gas prices have been so high is that OPEC cut back on production," said Mark Griffin, president of the Michigan Petroleum Association. "Due to the cut, consumers have used more gasoline than we import."

OPEC's production quotas are usually filled every six months and there have been requests for more production from the federal government.

"It's unfortunate that the federal government has waited until February to do this," Griffin said. "It's like shutting the barn door before the horse even left."

Any increase in OPEC's daily production would take about three months to drastically change retail prices and, in the meantime, will still result in expensive trips to the pump for vacationers this summer, experts say.

Bill would give home schoolers access to public courses

by Eric Lacy
Capital News Service

LANSING — Children in home schools or private schools could enroll in any class offered in a public school under a bill being considered by the House Education Committee.

Currently those children may take only courses that the Michigan Department of Education considers "non-essential," such as physical education, art and music. They cannot take courses, such as mathematics, reading and social studies that are considered essential.

According to 1998-99 department statistics, there were 1,269 home schools with 2,140 students meeting reporting requirements. At the same time, there were 1.8 million students

in 750 public schools across the state.

Rep. Joanne Voorhees (R-Wyoming), who sponsored the measure, said state aid to public school districts "clarifies what the School Aid Act already says," Voorhees said. "The right to public schools is not conditioned on full-time attendance."

The Michigan Education Association opposes the bill, saying that it will be costly for public schools to accommodate home and private school students.

"Those kids taking public school courses would cost the school more than the funding that is reimbursed by the state," said Margaret Trimer-Hartley, a communications consultant for the union. "The school dis-

trict knows best where they can afford additional students."

Trimer-Hartley said she believes there are other ways to assist those students. "We would like to see districts post openings that they have for home and private schoolers instead of just giving them the ability to choose what courses they want to take," she said.

The Midland Public School District should not be greatly affected if the proposal is approved, said Carol Feider, the director of school administration. "I don't think it will have a big impact on our district. Very few home schoolers come to us for non-core classes."

Feider does not anticipate students in home and private schools to rush to register for both essential and

non-essential classes.

"In a way, I would be surprised if more home schoolers enrolled for classes," Feider said. "Those students usually come to us for classes such as band or Spanish that they can't get at home."

At Otsego Christian Schools in Otsego County, students could benefit from public school courses, but some parents may be concerned with the lack of religion in curriculum, said administrator Julie Auriemma.

"There might not be a lot of Christian curriculum in public schools, but such courses such as applied science could be beneficial to students," Auriemma said. "Our students and parents have to look at both the financial and Christian concerns."

Impact study called for on North Down/I-75 interchange

Continued from Page 1A

that the scope could be reduced in some areas, for the sake of economy."

"It's a huge, huge dollar figure," said Howard Haselschwardt of NDG.

The Road Board agreed.

Road Commission Managing Director Don Babcock noted that the roadways mentioned in NDG's report do fall under Road Commission jurisdiction, but the support package for MDOT doesn't require the Road Commission to take on all of the projects on its own.

"We wanted to find out the worse case scenario," Babcock said.

"No clear purpose has been said for putting (the interchange) in," said Road Board Chairman Tom Perry. "We have higher priorities than this. I think we should look at this, but this isn't our highest priority."

Commissioners John Hartman and Ken Riehle agreed.

The next day, the Board presented a copy of NDG's report to those gathered at the North Down interchange meeting, and stated its views

on the proposed construction.

"We are not totally behind this project," said Perry, explaining that the Road Commission has several construction projects coming up in the next few years of higher priority. The high cost of the road projects that would have to accompany the interchange project and the lack of a concrete reason for having a full interchange at North Down are making the project a tough sale, Perry said.

"We don't want to kill the project," Perry added, but wanted to "apply some science" to the planning process before going any further in order to determine a need for the interchange and try to estimate the impact it would have on traffic and business in the area if built.

"We want to be in the discussion," Perry said. "We want to be in the group."

Other governmental units, organizations, and groups then voiced their stand on the issue:

Monica Ashton of the Grayling Township Board said the board has decided by consensus that if the community wants the interchange, the township will support it, other-

wise it won't push the project.

Lynnette Corlew, Chairman of the County Board, said the current Board of Commissioners has not voted on the issue, but the previous board supported it. Corlew noted that the Fish Hatchery would benefit from a full interchange at North Down/I-75.

Beaver Creek Township Supervisor Lee Riley felt the project wouldn't support a regional need, or even a local need.

The Grayling Uptown District Association felt the project "will help Grayling," and the Industrial Development Committee also noted its support of the idea.

The Grayling Area Visitors Council has had "much heated discussion," but has not reached a clear position.

Dave Frederick of the Crawford County Transportation Authority said the group doesn't have an official position, but would support it if the community wants the interchange. "Personally," Frederick said, "I have a hard time seeing what problems it will solve."

Grayling Little League was for the plan, since new fields would be

constructed for the organization.

Lynn McConnell, Chamber of Commerce Director, reported that the Chamber Board has reaffirmed its support of the project. "(It would) help make an economic impact on the community," she said. "I think (since) we've gotten this far, we have to put a plan together."

Perry suggested a planning consultant be hired to look at traffic flow and related issues, to see what potential economic impacts might result from a full North Down/I-75 interchange.

The group decided that the next step with regard to the project should be to assemble a committee and put a bid out for a planning consultant so a study could be completed. Also, a source of funding for the study would have to be determined.

Several representatives of the assembled groups volunteered to serve on the committee, and another meeting to discuss the interchange proposal was set for Thursday, March 30, at 3 p.m. at the Road Commission for Crawford County.

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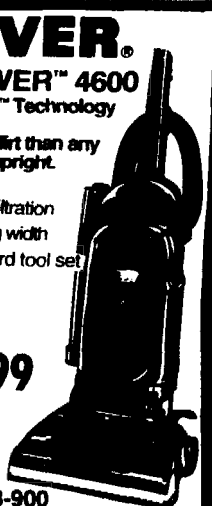


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Light state caucus turnout reflected at county level

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

Only eight people attended the Crawford County Democratic Caucus on March 11. Local party chair Clayton Horton said there was no way to determine how many absentee ballots were submitted by county voters due to the fact that the ballots are sent directly to Lansing.

Of the eight votes available that day, seven went to Vice President Al Gore and one went to former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley, who had dropped from the race just days before the caucus.

Bradley's departure from the race was blamed for the poor voter turnout by Democrats state-wide. In all, only 19,160 ballots were cast in the Michigan Democratic Caucus.

In the 4th Congressional District which includes Crawford County, Gore received 767 votes, of which 551 were cast by mail. Bradley received a total of 139 votes, 124 of which were mailed to Lansing. Also, there were four uncommitted votes cast in District 4.

In the state totals, Gore received

15,853 votes, Bradley received 3,117 votes and 190 voters remained uncommitted.

2000 Michigan Democratic Vote Totals remain "unofficial" as of

March 27 on the Michigan Democratic Party's web site.

The site indicates the last time it was updated was March 11 at 6:56 p.m.



Photo by Cheryl Ruley

NOT SO RAUCOUS CAUCUS — Only eight county Democrats came out for the Michigan Caucus on March 11, reflective of the state-wide scant voter turnout for the event. Crawford County Vice Chair Beth Wieland (foreground) talks with voters before the official caucus began.



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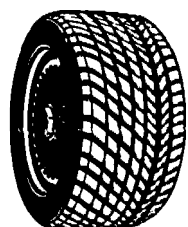
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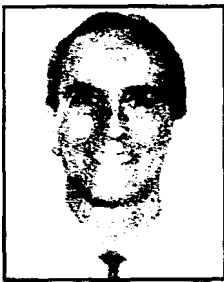


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OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Dirk Milliman

Let's change those April dates

There are so many significant dates in April. Two special ones come to mind.

Take for example, April first. Also known as April Fool's Day.

Why?

What would ever motivate somebody to conceive of such a day. Pick one day a year when everything is -- or could be -- a joke?

Even Hallmark hasn't gone so far in creating special days that never existed before. A practical joke day. A special day of fools. Only once a year, mind you. But a day set aside for fooling.

A friend of mine was born on April 1. So it held special significance for him. And his friends. And, of course, his parents. What a date to hold as the date of your birth. Almost as bad as February 29. But maybe even worse, since you are a fool every single year.

My wife and I bought our current home on April 1. Sure, we had some comments from folks, but all in all, we didn't get taken. Too badly.

And I suppose it's better than making any

type of grand decision on any of the various Friday the 13th's that come along. (There's only one of those this year, coming up in October.)

But why the special foolishness of this one date, this April 1?

Some holidays are steeped in religious meaning. Like Halloween and Fat Tuesday, they can trace their roots and traditions back hundreds of years and find a religious significance to the dates.

But is April Fool's Day in the same category?

I would tend to believe not.

In my never-ending quest for knowledge, I will continue to pursue the real reasons for all this foolishness surrounding April 1. I promise not to rest until the hidden, secret meaning of this day is uncovered. It will be my one and only quest.

Just kidding.

* * * * *

Another big date in April for all of us is April 15. Tax day.

Some of you may remember when there

was no income tax. Our government did not start charging and collecting taxes from Joe average citizen until about the 1930s, if memory serves.

Since that time, our total tax rate has climbed to nearly 50 percent. Almost half of everything you earn goes to the government, in some form or another. It may be local taxes, sales taxes, income taxes or any of the hundreds of other millages, charges, fees or forced contributions we taxpayers make.

But call it what you will, your money is gone to the government.

And April 15 has come to be remembered as an annual day of infamy by many tax-paying Americans.

It's the day of reckoning. The day Uncle Same takes another big bite of your financial apple.

The day the tax bill comes due.

Now don't get me wrong. I believe in paying my fair share. I think that's only right.

But my "fair" share is ever increasing.

And now sometimes I sure feel that my fair share is also someone else's fair share, too.

Every year some bean counter somewhere calculates Tax Freedom Day. That's the day we workers reach when we finally are earning for ourselves. All we have earned before that date is our obligation to the government. Every penny before that date has been earmarked for some government program or other.

This year, Tax Free Day is in June. That means everything earned by you -- the taxpayer -- before that June date is the amount you are obligated to pay the government.

So, April 15 -- tax day -- has become a bad word in many American homes.

Sure, some of us get a refund from the government. Whoopee!

All that means is that you have been overpaying the government all year long. They have had your money. Money you earned and could have invested yourself. But no, you gave it to the government to hold onto -- interest free, no less -- so you could get a check back in April.

And now with electronic filing, you can get your own money back from the government even faster. What a great idea!

So there is special meaning with April 15 for millions of Americans. None of them good, unless you work for the Internal Revenue Service.

Hey, wait. I've got an idea!

My simple suggestion?

Let's combine these two special April dates.

Make April 15 the day for foolishness. Send your taxes in -- or not! Maybe send the right amount... maybe not! Play funny tricks on the IRS. Wouldn't that be a hoot? I'm sure they would enjoy it as much as we would.

It would give a new special meaning to April Fool's, wouldn't it?

Richard Milliman is on vacation. His column is being written in his absence by Dirk Milliman, president of Milliman Communications, which publishes newspapers in Albion, Grayling Marshall and Three Rivers.

VIEWPOINT

Kids First! Yes! campaign urges House to put kids 1st

Members of the Michigan Senate, on March 22 in a shocking development, directly targeted 1.8 million Michigan public school children for education cuts in hopes of silencing hundreds of thousands of Michigan parents' calls for fundamental education reform.

State Senators, entrusted by voters with funding children's education, approved the per-pupil funding cut threat despite an unprecedented half-billion dollar education surplus now growing by an estimated \$171 million annually.

It is absolutely unconscionable that some politicians, desperate to make a political point, would threaten innocent children with education cuts and, at the same time, blatantly ignore their parents' calls for higher quality education. If politicians want to argue the merits of a failing status quo to voting parents, they ought to do so fairly and honestly, without threatening to slash their children's education funding.

Reform adverse members of the Senate, voting to allow per-pupil education cuts, argued that cuts in the state's per-pupil funding level would be needed to keep the state's per-pupil foundation solvent. But

Michigan's current per pupil foundation is operating with a \$500 million surplus and that surplus is expected to swell to \$671 million next year.

The cost of a voter approved school choice program, according to the Senate's Fiscal Agency, would not exceed \$83 million in its first and most expensive year, and the program would actually save the state money after it is fully implemented. Furthermore, and in contrast to the Senate's action, the Kids First! Yes! initiative actually guarantees higher per-pupil funding for all kids.

If the state can afford to spend hundreds of millions of dollars in a widely supported proposal to buy laptop computers for every teacher in Michigan, it should be able to afford a majority-supported school choice program.

We hope the House reconsiders forcing punitive per-pupil spending cuts and instead votes to put kids first.

Greg Brock, Campaign Manager
and Greg McNeilly
Kids First! Yes!
Lansing

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be signed and an address and telephone number must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name.

Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

Deadline for submission of letters to the editor is Friday at noon for consideration for publication in the following week's paper.

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Check us out on the Internet at www.townnews.com/avalanche/

School bus assault leaves parents miffed

To the editor,

We would like to address the parents of the boy who likes to assault other kids on the school bus because someone laughs when your son doesn't like it. This letter is also meant to let other parents and taxpayers know what goes on during their children's rides on the school buses.

To the boy's parents, let us tell you a thing or two. Our 10-year old son said, "Let it go ... forget it." Would you?

We cannot forget the recent assault of our son on a Crawford AuSable school bus because, just a few years ago, he was nearly taken from us due to cancer and his lungs aren't in the greatest shape.

During the school bus assault, our son was hit several times in the back, mashing his face into the bus window and causing a severe bloody nose, fat lip, and bending his just-repaired glasses. But, he held his ground and took the beating because we taught him it is wrong to hit others.

When we saw our son, he was a bloody mess. Our first thoughts were of outrage and extreme anger. After all, our son has been through too much to have a brat almost wreck what is left of his health. We could have brought the law in on this, but our son didn't

want us to because he's just like that. But, he said he doesn't want anything to do with the boy anymore.

As punishment for the assault, the brat was kicked off the bus for a few days. Big deal. We were told that school bus bullies are given three chances at bad behavior before they are permanently kicked off the bus. Why so many chances? Why do other kids' rights come second to that of the bullies'?

The bully's mother got the chance to see the video tape of the assault. We, the parents of the victim, were not given such a privilege. This was an assault of our son that took place on a public school bus, paid for by our tax dollars. In fact, the video tape and camera were paid for with our tax dollars. What happened to our family's rights?

We would like to ask the parents of the bully just what the heck would they have done if the shoe was on the other foot. Think about it.

As of this writing, we have not received an apology from either the boy or his parents. What has happened to manners in this world? Just sign us concerned and ticked off parents.

Tim and Cindy Pease
Grayling

Bad press concerns Junior Miss sponsor

To the editor,

The Board of Directors of the American Business Womens Association, and most particularly Sandra Moore, Director of the Jr. Miss Program, have become increasingly concerned regarding the articles appearing in this paper about the recent vandalism at Grayling High School. It seems that in every article the inference has been that the action was precipitated by those who were unhappy with the outcome of the Jr. Miss program.

To set the record straight, the ABWA Board would like the public to know that the Director met with all the contestants immediately following the very first incident. We do not believe any of this is the result of action by a contestant.

We believe that a certain amount of parking lot vandalism occurs at school. Not all of it is reported. That way the school may be unaware of the problem. Because of the timing it was easy to believe this poor behavior was aimed at a

certain individual.

The Jr. Miss Program is a wonderful opportunity for Junior girls to make the very best of themselves. It currently requires a 3.0 GPA, creative writing ability, good interviewing skills, and stage presence. It is NOT a beauty pageant.

We hope that the public will continue to support this program and not let a few senseless acts by short-sighted and intolerant individuals spoil a scholarship program that has helped many young women in the past -- and hopefully will help many more in the future.

We are very proud of the Junior Miss representatives we have had -- both this year and in the past. They have met our high standards and most have completed their college education. It is our plan to continue the Jr. Miss Program and set our sights on the highest level, regardless of the poor judgment of others.

Board of Directors
American Business Womens
Association

Rules of the river prove DNR has too much power

To the editor,

After receiving two newspapers articles from friends, I decided I must write to say the DNR has been given too much power!

Are happy memories all that's left for our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of fishing the Manistee River with "dad" or "gramp"? Why must all good things come to an end?

If we can no longer afford to purchase all of the necessities for fly fishing, why should we continue to support the UMRA as we have for the past 29 years we've had a cottage on the river? I don't doubt that

soon we'll need a license to "tube" the river!

I keep hearing on TV, "Take a boy fishing because some day he may take you." Well, probably not on the Manistee! How did all of these changes come about so suddenly, without all of us being notified or given a chance to express our opinions?

All of the new rules have saddened Mr. and Mrs. Charles Armstrong and family of 23 who love and enjoy the Manistee River.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Armstrong
Saginaw and Grayling

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of *The Crawford County Avalanche*.

AVALANCHE DEADLINES

Community Briefs items submitted to *The Avalanche* must be turned in to the office by Monday noon, to appear in that week's issue.

Photographs must be turned in to the office by noon on Friday for consideration in the next issue.

News items and letters should be submitted on 8 1/2-x-11 inch paper, typed, and double-spaced.

Handwritten items must also have ample space between each line; on lined

paper use every other line.

Classified ads by the word must be turned in by Tuesday noon and have to be paid for in advance.

Classified display ads must be turned in by Monday noon.

Full page, half page, or color display ads must be turned in by Thursday at 5 p.m.

The deadline for all display ads smaller than a half page is Friday at 5 p.m.

BRIEFS

Register now for Pictionary Olympics

The 13th Annual Pictionary Olympics, hosted by the Grayling Promotional Association (GPA), will be held Friday, April 28 at the Knights of Columbus Hall beginning at 7 p.m. A donation of \$60 will enter a four-person team into the competition. All proceeds from this evening of fun will go toward future beautification projects in Grayling and also to the 2000 AuSable River Festival Parade. For an application, call Mary Jo or Debbie at 348-6511.

Michelson hosts all-you-can-eat lunch

An all-you-can-eat soup, sandwich, salad and dessert luncheon will be hosted by Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 6 at the church located on Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Cost is \$4.50 per person. Take-outs are available. Everyone is welcome.

Local wild turkey chapter to meet

The Beaver Creek Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTFF) meets every first Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Roscommon Community Center. For more information, call Tom Nadeau at (517) 275-8267.

Master Gardeners offer landscaping help

Are you planning to landscape a new home or is it time your current home needs updating? Join the Master Gardeners Society on Monday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Master Gardener Jean Schneider will give suggestions and hints for the type of shrubs that thrive in this area of Michigan for the effect desired. Reservations are not necessary and you need not be a Master Gardener to attend. Anyone interested in gardening and/or this subject is welcome. For more information, call (517) 275-5832.

NRC Cadillac veterans sought for reunion

Organizers of Naval Reserve Center Cadillac - Reunion 2000 are looking for Naval Reservists who drilled at NRC Cadillac from 1947 until its closure in 1995. Former reservists, staff members and active duty members who drilled at NRC Cadillac are invited to a Weekend Campout, August 4-6, with main events planned for Saturday, August 5 to accommodate those unable to attend the full weekend. Those who wish to attend or know the whereabouts of someone who drilled at NRC Cadillac, should contact Ken Helmick at (810) 274-4675, or by e-mail to: nrcreunion@aol.com, or log on to: <http://members.aol.com/nrcreunion/index.html>.

Relay for Life 2000 meeting planned

Organizers of the local Relay for Life, benefiting the American Cancer Society, invite anyone interested in walking as a team or individual or helping with the August 4-5 event to attend a meeting at 7:30 a.m. on April 13 at the Gray-Rock Cafe on Industrial Street in Grayling. For more information, call Tammy Kent at 348-6511 or Traci Nelson at 348-1217.

Retired state employees group to meet

The regular meeting of North Central Area Chapter #19, State Employee Retirees Association, will be held Tuesday, April 4, at the Houghton Lake Community Building, beginning at 2 p.m. All retired state employees and their spouses are encouraged to attend.

Retired federal employees to meet

The local chapter of the National Association for Retired Federal Employees (NARFE), Chapter 2305, will meet Thursday, April 6 at Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church in Grayling. Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m., with business meeting starting around 12:15 p.m. Membership is open to civilians with at least five years vested service in any agency of the federal or District of Columbia government, including retirees, former employees, current employees and spouses of current employees and spouses and surviving spouses of those eligible to join. For more information, call Rudy Martinez at 348-5326.

Camp's conservation club to meet

Camp Grayling Conservation Club will meet Monday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the clubhouse located on Jones Lake Road. For information and directions, call (517) 344-6162 or (517) 344-4300.

Get in shape at work in May

The Healthy Workplace Coalition of the Fitness Council of Northern Michigan invites area businesses to participate in the 1st Annual Northern Michigan Employee Health & Fitness Day on May 17. This event is part of National Employee Health and Fitness Day, which was launched nationally in 1989, by the National Association of Governor's Councils on Physical Fitness and Sports.

On April 1 the Coalition will be sending out packets to worksites in 21 counties of northern Michigan. Companies will then plan and promote their program at their own worksite.

On May 17, employees will be actively participating in the nationwide event. Participating worksites in northern Michigan will receive a Certificate of Participation after the event.

Corporations are finding that by initiating worksite wellness programs, health care costs can be dramatically reduced and employee morale and productivity can be increased. A small investment in employee's health may benefit the company and the entire community.

The goal of Northern Michigan Employee Health and Fitness Day is to show people that physical activity

can be fun. Of all the risk factors for chronic disease, lack of physical activity is the most prevalent in Michigan. Fifty-five percent of Michigan adults lead sedentary lifestyles.

To receive a registration form, contact Donna Burge, coordinator of the Fitness Council of Northern Michigan, at (517) 732-1794. The Fitness Council of Northern Michigan is an affiliate of the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing is scheduled during March 29 through April 4.

Range 40 Complex, Air to Ground, located north of County Rd. 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Rd. 618 and west of County Rd. F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.).

Small Arms Ranges located west of Lake Margrethe, north of Howe Road, east of the gas pipeline and south of Portage Creek.

For further information, call (517) 344-6107 or (517) 344-6152/56.

Local babies awarded



Lyric Marie Leas (left) and Kelsey Grace Palmer (right) won trophies in "The Most Beautiful Baby Contest" held February 26 at the Grand Traverse Mall. Over 500 babies and children took part in different age groups and categories. Lyric won trophies for Best Snapshot and Potential Magazine Ad. Kelsey won trophies for Prettiest Eyes and Most Marketable. Both girls received paid entry into the state competition. Lyric is the daughter of Brent and Stephanie Leas. Kelsey is the daughter of Brian and Tammy Palmer. All are from Grayling.

MADD offers victim advocate training

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Michigan is offering special training for volunteers interested in becoming drunk driving victim advocates.

The Beginning Advocacy Training for northern Michigan will be an intensive weekend session, April 8-9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and 7-9 p.m. Saturday evening.

The two-day MADD workshop will be held at the Otsego Memorial Hospital located at 825 N. Center, Gaylord. There is no charge for the training but advance registration is required.

A victim advocate works within his or her community assisting drunk driving victims by providing support and guidance. An advocate is not necessarily a credentialed professional but one who is trained by MADD to work with victims, peer to peer.

The trained advocate often accompanies a victim or "speaks for them" in person, in writing or by phone when contact is necessary with individuals or organizations which may be overwhelming to the

victim. The advocacy training prepares the volunteer advocate to conduct these responsibilities.

The advocate training program covers such topics as how to provide support and assistance to drunk driving victims and their families, the criminal justice process and the court system, and information resources.

An individual does not need to be a MADD member or drunk driving victim to work in this capacity but should be prepared to volunteer their services upon completion of the training.

The MADD presented workshop is funded by the Michigan Office of Criminal Justice, Crime Victims Fund.

For more information about the training, contact the MADD, Michigan State Office at (517) 631-6233; e-mail MADDMI@aol.com, or 910 Eastlawn Drive, Midland MI 48642.

Individuals seeking victim support services can call the MADD statewide hotline at 1-800-323-MADD (6233).

Historic farm needs volunteers

Wellington Farm Park, a working farm and living history complex in southwestern Crawford County is in need of volunteers for the coming season.

Within the park there are volunteer jobs to meet just about every ability and interest. Carpentry, metalwork, quilting, cooking, sewing, painting, gardening, odd jobs, painting, caring for livestock and guiding are just a few of the jobs that need to be filled.

Wellington Farm Park is especially interested in people who are over the age of 75 who would be willing to just sit in the shade and talk to people. Volunteers are also needed to work in the park office and farm market.

Age, physical handicaps or disabilities are not an issue at Wellington Farm Park. Throughout the historical complex, there are volunteer opportunities to meet the

abilities of every person willing to give of their time. Last year volunteers ranged in age from six to 89. Volunteering at Wellington Farm Park will satisfy community service graduation requirements.

Wellington Farm Park does require that volunteers attend an orientation program and an interview. Orientation classes will be held in April and early May. Applications for volunteering are available from the park offices at 6771 S. Military Road, Grayling. A toll free call to 1-888-653-3276 will have an application mailed to you.

Wellington Farm Park is a living history museum depicting life in rural Midwest American during the time of the Great Depression. The park will open for the season on May 27 and will operate until Halloween.

Currently, the park is accepting reservations from groups for use of the Leon Johnston Pavilion during the coming season. To learn more about Wellington Farm Park visit the website at www.wellington-farmpark.org.

Hosts needed for exchange students

Cultural Academic Student Exchange (CASE), a U.S. government sanctioned, CSIET listed non-profit educational organization is looking for families of all types to host a foreign exchange student.

CASE has students arriving from various countries and all speak English. Students arrive sometime in August and bring their own personal spending money.

All students have their own medical insurance. Host Families agree to provide room and board and to include the exchange student as a member of the family.

To learn more about hosting a student without any obligation, contact Joyce toll-free at 1-877-846-5848.



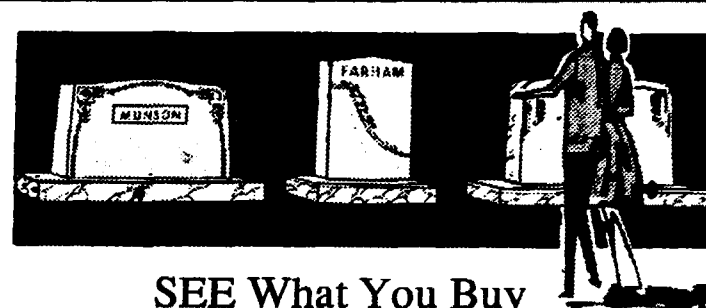
If you are looking for quality, dependable and age appropriate educational activities, look no further...

AS WEE GROW CHILD CARE CENTER, INC. is now OPEN and accepting enrollment applications for all ages!!!

We are conveniently located 1/2 mile from Grayling at 4304 M-72 East

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Program Director: Julie Sajdak



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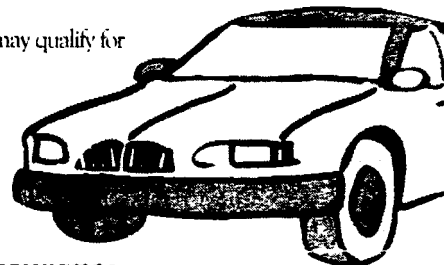
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The Bible Speaks

War on God?

Dick Boland wrote an article 2/15/2000 reporting that "A Wisconsin judge has ruled that a statue of Jesus, while on private land, must be mistakenly believed to be on public land." Therefore, the judge suggested that a fence or wall be erected with a disclaimer making it clear there was no support for Jesus by the city. This reminds us of Pilate who wrote a disclaimer in three languages and placed it on top of the cross upon which Jesus Christ was crucified. (John 19:19) "And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS." (Luke 23:38) "And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

Pilate feared the people more than God. (Luke 23: 20-25) "Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them. But they cried, saying, Crucify him crucify him. And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and let him go. And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed. And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required. And he released unto them

him (Barabas the robber) that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will." (Prov. 29:25) "The fear of man bringeth a snare; but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe."

The name of Jesus Christ still suffers disclaimers, discrimination and rejection. Recently in Tampa, FL, a homosexual group calling itself the "Coalition to Convert Baptists" claimed responsibility for the vandalism at Seminole Heights Baptist Church and Idlewild Baptist Church. The vandals used pink spray paint to mark the buildings with slogans and triangles. The same group also claimed to have planted a bomb in the Seminole Heights building on Sunday, February 13. And, there was no mention of words like "hate crime" or "Bigotry." Because these churches had failed to have their faith and their property fenced in.

We have surely come a long way since education started in American churches with the Bible as the textbook and the pastor as the teacher. We surely don't want to go back to the days of the McGuffey Readers when students learned to read and develop Biblical morality. After all, how can a social revolution be encouraged with such teachings? How can our children be taught to embrace sodomy, socialism, and global-

ism if they are taught to believe the Bible?

Most students are neither required or permitted to memorize these words from our Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." But, our Lord and King Jesus Christ is coming back to earth to rule and reign some day in spite of all the disclaimers, fences, and pagan acts which reject His person, work, and word.

"Pastor B"

Please pray for the ministry of this column and our church Websites at <http://freeway.net/~cha/> and at <http://www.geocities.com/Hearthland/Ranch/1263> and at <http://www.i2k.com/~cha/index.html>.

We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn Bible prophecy for Y2K and beyond. Join us in a verse study of the book of Revelations each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.

"The Bible Speaks" is paid for by concerned Christians who support Grayling Calvary Baptist Church and who assume full responsibility for its content.

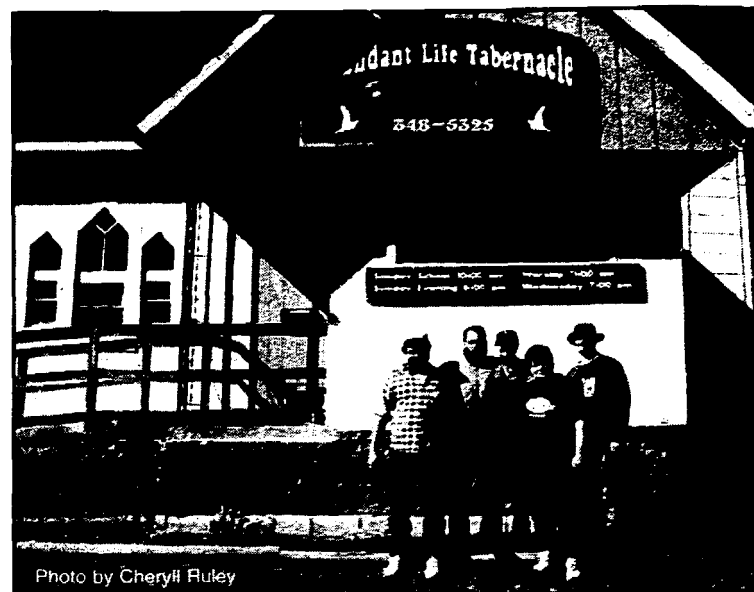
Sign company tithes in a special way

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

Thee Sign Company, Inc., of Roscommon, has found a unique way to spread the Word of God's love. The company chooses one church each year and designs a new sign or signs to fit its needs.

The Abundant Life Tabernacle in Grayling was the recipient of \$10,000 in hand-carved and hand-painted solid oak signs. About 200 hours was spent over eight months time working on the signs.

Thee Sign Shop co-owners Sean Bell and Carlos Jean-Francois are devout Christians and say the Lord has blessed them with success, therefore they enjoy passing the blessings on to churches in need of "inviting" signs. They ask that each church make a contribution to help them carry on their special



Thee Sign Shop, Inc. owners created, donated and installed a total of three new signs valued at \$10,000 to the Abundant Life Tabernacle on Shellenbarger Street in Grayling. Every year, the company helps out a house of worship with signage. Shown in front, from left, are Carlos Jean-Francois (co-owner of Thee Sign Shop), Pastor Lyle Studer, and Sean Bell (co-owner). Helping with the installation were (in back) Ron Alleman and Wayne VanPelt.

ministry.

Over the past few years, signs have been donated to a church in

Kinross, the New Hope Chapel in Prudenville, and Grace Covenant Fellowship in Higgins Lake.

Church Directory

"Why are all those creatures pointing at me and screeching? Maybe they are those 'humans' Mom and Dad told me about. They look happy, but they might be getting hungry any minute! I sure hope they can't reach me. It's a zoo out there!"

Baby bear is right. It is a zoo out there. Aren't we glad we can trust our faith in God to protect us from fear? This is expressed beautifully as follows...

"Build a little fence of trust

Around today;

Fill the space with loving work,

And therein stay;

Look not through the sheltering bars

Upon tomorrow;

God will help thee bear what comes

Of joy or sorrow.

...Mary Frances Butts: Trust

You can have "the peace that passeth all understanding." Worship this week.

"It's a Zoo out there!"



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Chronicles 6:34-42	Ezra 9:5-15	Nehemiah 1:1-11	Daniel 9:1-10	Jonah 2:1-10	James 5:13-20	1:1-11

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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Christian Science Society
209 First St., Suite 103 - Gaylord
Sunday Service, 10:30 am
April through October
2nd Wednesday 8 pm

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeffrey Jagers
400 Michigan Ave. • 348-2974
Barrier Free

Sunday Worship, 8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School - Sept. - May, 9:45 to 10:45
Sunday Radio Ministry, 8 am, 101.1 WQON
Bible Study (Wed.), 10 am

Seventh Day Adventist
Pastor Jeff Arthur
Phone 348-4033
Services held Saturday at Camp AuSable off M-72 East (1st building on right inside camp entrance).
Church Service, 9:30 am
Sabbath School, 10:30 am
Prayer Meeting Tues, 7 pm

Burning Bush Tabernacle
Pastor Patricia Petrie, 348-1278
501 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling
Sunday School, 10 am
Sunday Service & Children's Church, 11 am
Sunday Evening Service, 6 pm
Monday Prayer Meeting, 7 pm
Wednesday Bible Study, 7 pm
Thursday Discipleship Class, 7 pm
Significant Singles Monday, 7 pm

Grayling Assembly of God
Rev. Ron Voelker, Pastor
701 S. I-75 Business Loop
Church 348-8885 • Parsonage 348-2588
Sunday School, 9:30 am
Morning Worship, 10:30 am
Evening Service, 6 pm
Wednesday - Family Night
Adult-Youth-Children, 7 pm

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
President Larry A. Cook
600 North Elm Street, Gaylord
Sacrament, 10 am
Sunday School, 11 am
Primary, 11 am
Priesthood, 12 noon
Relief Society, 12 noon

Emma Lowery United Church of Christ
Pastor James Briney
3474 West Park Road, Luzerne
Sunday Worship, 11 am
Adult and Youth Sunday School, 9:30 am

Heritage Baptist
Pastor Ernie Wagner 348-1411
1841 Hartwick Pines Rd.
1/4 mile west of I-75
Sunday School, 9:45 am
Morning Worship, 11 am
Evening Worship, 6 pm
Wednesday, 7 pm

St. John Lutheran (ELCA)
710 Spruce Street
348-5224
Sunday School, 9:15 am
Sunday Worship, 10:30 am
Nursery is available

Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Pastor Patricia Fowler
North Down River Rd. at 1030 Glenn Rd.
P.O. Box 1188
Church School, 9:45 am
Preaching, 11 am
Midweek Service Prayer, 7 pm

Gaylord Christian Reformed
Rev. V. Schaap
415 Ohio North, Gaylord
Sunday School, 9:45 am
Morning Worship, 11 am
Evening Service, 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study, 7:30 pm

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Community
Robert W. Nalley, J.V., Pastor
700-708 Peninsular - 348-7657
Sabbath Eucharist
Saturday Vigil Mass, 6 pm
Sunday Masses, 8:00 am
Family Mass, 10:00 am
Scripture Study (Sundays), 9:15 am
Daily Masses, 8:30 am
Wednesday & Fridays, 8:30 am

First Baptist Church of Frederic
Pastor Dale Hammond
Sunday School, 9:45 am
Morning Worship, 11 am
Evening Worship, 6 pm
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study, 7 pm
Blessing Radio (Internet)
<http://blessing-radio.com>

New Life Ministries
Pastor Jimmie McWatters
Grayling Days Inn Conference Room
517-536-7933 • jmcwat@freeway.net
Sunday Services, 11:00 am

Calvary Baptist Church
Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor
M-72 West
Sunday School, 9:45 am
Morning Worship, 10:30 am
Evening Worship, 6 pm
Mid-Week Services
Wednesday, 7 pm
Prayer & Awana Club (Wed.), 7 pm

Church of Christ
Gordon French, Pastor
Old US-27 at Skyline Rd. • 275-8613
Sunday Classes, 10 am
Sunday Worship, 11 am
Sunday Evening, 6 pm
Wednesday
Mid-Week Bible Study, 7 pm

Bear Lake Christian
M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.
Sunday School, 9 am
Sunday Service, 10 am

The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message
Pastor Paul Rolfe
7662 Kelly Ave., Frederic
Sunday Worship, 10 am & 7 pm
Wed. Prayer Service, 7 pm

Abundant Life Tabernacle
Pastor Lyle Studer
211 Shellenbarger St. • 348-5325
Sunday School, 10 am
Sunday Worship, 11 am & 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening, 7 pm

Grayling Baptist Church
Affiliated with S.B.C.
Pastor Terry Colby
Meeting at Hanson Hills • 348-2557
Sunday School, 9:45 am
Morning Worship, 11 am
Evening Service, 6 pm
Wednesday Service, 7 pm

Harvest Time Church of God
Pastor Fred Coates
506 North Birch St., Kalkaska
(616) 258-3448
Sunday School, 10 am
Worship Service, 11 am & 6 pm
Family Training Hour and Prayer
Wednesday, 7 pm

Lovells Chapel
Pastor Rev. D. Dean Coursey
Sunday School, 10 am
Chapel Service, 11 am
Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7-8 pm

Free Methodist
Joseph Carpenter - Pastor
6652 (M-72 W.) • 348-9093 or 348-5362
Early Service, 8:30 am
Sunday School, 10 am
Morning Service, 11 am
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday), 7 pm

Mt. Hope Evangelical Lutheran-Missouri Synod
Rev. Paul Boerger, Pastor
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Sunday Worship, 8 & 10:30 am
Sunday School & Bible Study, 9:15 am
Tuesday Night School, 5:30 pm
Wednesday am Bible Study, 9 am
Lenten Services every Wednesday through April 12th

St. Francis Episcopal
Rev. Robert Henley
M-72 West - Office 348-5850
Sunday Holy Eucharist, 8:30 & 10:30 am
Morning Praise, 10:30 am
(the second Sunday of each month)
Adult & Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am
Sunday nursery provided, 10:30 am
by Licensed Daycare Professional
Adult Choir Practice (Wednesday), 6:45 pm

St. Martins Ev. Lutheran (Wels)
Herbert R. Filter - Pastor
For information call 275-5443
Services held at the Roscommon Community Center. Sunday mornings at 9 am, 510 South St., Roscommon, MI.

Luzerne Baptist
Pastor James Durfee
2247 Durfee Lane
Sunday School, 10 am
Sunday Morning Worship, 11 am
Sunday Evening Worship, 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study, 7 pm

Unity of Gaylord
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Sunday Services, 10:30 am
Sunday School, 10:30 am

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If you wish to show your support for area churches, call the Avalanche, 348-6811, to be included on this page.

Munson recognized for quality health care

Grayling Mercy also recognized for 'best practice' model improvements

The National Committee for Quality Health Care (NCQHC) is honoring Munson Medical Center of Traverse City with its 2000 National Quality Health Care Award.

The award, which is co-sponsored by *Modern Healthcare* magazine, was presented by NCQHC Immediate Past Chair Donald Yesukaitis and *Modern Healthcare* publisher Charles Lauer at the organization's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

In presenting the award, Yesukaitis and Lauer praised Munson and its leadership for its commitment to providing the highest standard of care to what had historically been a geographically isolated area.

"Once a community hospital catering to people in five counties, the facility has flourished into a major regional referral center serving 300,000 individuals in an area stretching some 15,000 square miles in northern Michigan," said Yesukaitis.

As a regional health care system, Munson Healthcare provides direct access to more than 350 physicians, representing 38 specialty services. Munson Healthcare is comprised of seven health care facilities located throughout northern Michigan -- Munson Medical Center in Traverse

City, Leelanau Memorial Health Center in Northport and Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital in Frankfort. In addition, Munson Healthcare manages the Kalkaska Memorial Health Center in Kalkaska, Mercy Hospital Cadillac and Mercy Hospital Grayling and is affiliated with West Shore Medical Center in Manistee.

"Munson Medical Center's commitment to providing quality health care for its patients is clear in its philosophy of and committed leadership to quality management," said Catherine McDermott, NCQHC president and CEO.

"Continuously improving processes as the way to get better results offers the staff and management of the facility the opportunity to learn and grow -- thereby creating an optimal healing environment."

"We are thrilled to be recognized by NCQHC," said Ralph Cerny, president and CEO of Munson Medical Center. "The improvement of quality has become embedded in Munson's mission and management philosophy."

Mercy Hospital Grayling, along with Munson Medical Center, has had a commitment to continuous improvement of quality services provided to the people and communities served. As part of that effort, board members, senior administrative staff, the management staff,

physicians, and the entire employment group are engaged in endeavors to identify and improve key processes that have the greatest impact on consumers.

"We are pleased that Munson Medical Center has been recognized as a leader in quality management," states Stephanie Riemer-Matuzak, CEO of Mercy Hospital Grayling. "The commitment to providing quality health care by both Munson and Mercy was one of the forces which drew our organizations together in creating our partnership."

Mercy Hospital was also recognized by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospital Organizations during its last survey.

Women business partners and the IRS

A woman who owns and operates a business with her husband should be sure to file a separate self-employment return (Schedule SE) with the Internal Revenue Service even though the couple files a joint income tax return.

"If you don't file a separate Schedule SE, all the earnings from the business will automatically be reported under your husband's Social Security number," warns the SSA. "In that case, your Social Security

record won't show your earnings and you may not receive Social Security credits for your part of the business income. This could affect the amount of Social Security benefits you or your family members may be eligible to receive on your own earnings record."

For more information, call Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, and ask for the brochure, *If You're Self-Employed*. It is also available on the Internet at www.ssa.gov.

record won't show your earnings and you may not receive Social Security credits for your part of the business income. This could affect the amount of Social Security benefits you or your family members may be eligible to receive on your own earnings record."

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Spring Into Car Care

The last snowflakes of winter will be falling and it's time to get a jump start on preparing your car for the spring and summer months.

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Advertising in this section will let our readers know where to go to keep their vehicles in good running condition.

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Organ donations fostered by 'Buddy Day'

With more than 2,400 Michigan residents waiting for a life-giving organ or tissue transplant, Secretary of State Candice S. Miller today announced that Secretary of State branch offices will partner with the Gift of Life Agency to host Buddy Day on Monday, April 3.

The Secretary of State's Buddy Day is an annual event used to promote greater organ donor awareness by allowing Gift of Life volunteers, known as "Buddies," to visit branch offices and meet with customers.

"Buddy Day provides us with an excellent opportunity to get the important message of organ donation to the public," Secretary Miller said. "Our message is simple. We can reduce the number of patients waiting for an organ transplant by doing three simple things -

enrolling on the Michigan Organ and Tissue Donor Registry, signing the back of the driver license, and discussing organ donation with family and friends."

During Buddy Day, 86 Gift of Life volunteers will visit 75 Secretary of State branch offices - including seven branch offices in the Upper Peninsula, the most representation the region has had since Buddy Day began.

Buddies will visit branch offices between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to meet with customers and distribute organ donor information, stickers, pencils, and other educational materials. Branch offices without Buddies will have organ donor information on display.

April was recently declared Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness

Month by Governor Engler. The Secretary of State's efforts to promote organ donor awareness will continue throughout the month. Organ donor information and posters featuring Secretary Miller with a group of young transplant recipients will remain in branch offices to remind customers about the critical need for organ donors.

Other Secretary of State organ donor initiatives include the new Michigan driver license and the department's organ donor registry enrollment program, which has added about 190,000 names to the organ donor registry. The enrollment program's latest advancement allows people to place their names on the organ donor registry online. Since the online service became available in late January, more than

900 people have registered via the Internet, for an average of about 100 names per week to date.

Enrollment cards are also available at branch offices and on the department's web site at www.sos.state.mi.us. Additional enrollment cards are mailed with all driver licenses and state identification cards.

The Gift of Life Agency is Michigan's only certified, full-service organ recovery organization. The agency acts as an intermediary to provide educational resources about organ and tissue donation for donors, recipients, physicians, and hospital staff.

For more information about organ and tissue donation, contact the Gift of Life Agency at 1-800-481-4882.

Local realtors attain top awards

Realtors with RE/MAX of Grayling were recently honored by the RE/MAX Real Estate System for outstanding sales and service in 1999. They received their awards at the RE/MAX of Michigan 21st Annual Regional Conference held February 10-12 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City.

Craig Hinkle was inducted into the RE/MAX Hall of Fame. Only 1,023 individuals among the 58,000 RE/MAX membership were inducted last year. The award is earned by members who, during their careers with RE/MAX, have helped at least 350 families buy or sell homes.

Hinkle was also awarded the prestigious Platinum Club Award.

Qualifications for the Platinum Club are based on exceptional sales production and commission income for the year. It is the highest annual award in the RE/MAX network. In 1999, fifty-two Associates in the RE/MAX of Michigan Region achieved this status, representing the top six percent of the Region.

Charlene Scheer and Tom Slavens were honored with the esteemed 100% Club Award, which is also based on sales production for the year. In 1999, only the top 30 percent of Associates affiliated with the RE/MAX of Michigan Region qualified for the 100% Club Award.

Gary Boyd was awarded Executive Club honors. In 1999,

twenty percent of all Sales Associates affiliated with the RE/MAX of Michigan Region qualified for this club level.

"We recognized 710 award winners during our Regional Conference," said Michel Metzner, Regional Director. "This represents 78 percent of our entire membership and a 15 percent increase in award winners compared to the previous year."

"The number of award winners from one office is a testament to the hard work of everyone on the RE/MAX of Grayling team," said Metzner. "RE/MAX of Grayling is a large part of the success that the real estate network enjoys in Michigan," added Metzner.

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\$47 million loan adds to and improves rural electric service

Donald L. Hare, state director for USDA Rural Development operations in Michigan, announced today the approval of a \$47 million loan to the Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, located in Newaygo and Boyne City.

The loan funds will be used to bring new service to 6,000 rural Michigan customers and to further improve electric service to existing Great Lakes Energy Customers.

"For over one half century, rural electric cooperatives have led the way in creating much needed electric infrastructure and service for rural America. Many rural areas of

Michigan are now better able to compete for businesses, as well as other new market opportunities, thanks in large part to efforts by cooperatives such as Great Lakes Energy Cooperative," said Hare.

"The improvements being made by Great Lakes Energy Cooperative will certainly be a tremendous boost for the West Michigan economy."

"This represents the largest single investment ever in our electric distribution system," said Steve Boeckman, Great Lakes Energy chief executive officer. "It will benefit customers through reduced power outages and momentary

'blinks,' increased capacity to meet growing customer demand, and corrected low and high voltage situations."

According to Hare, Great Lakes Energy Cooperative will use the \$47 million loan to construct 518 miles of distribution line; serving 6,000 new customers. Areas expected to benefit from the improvements include Kalkaska, Otsego and Crawford counties.

In addition to 518 miles of new

distribution line, the project also calls for upgrading 323 miles of existing power lines to improve voltage and capacity levels. It also includes \$7 million in substation improvements and \$7.8 million in new transformers, meters, regulators, service wires and pole replacements.

The loan will have a 35 - year repayment period at a variable interest rate not to exceed seven percent.

DEQ move from Grayling to Gaylord office underway

The Department of Environmental Quality's new Gaylord office is expected to be completely operational beginning the week of March 20, according to DEQ Director Russell Harding.

The office at 2100 W. M-32 will consolidate staff currently in Grayling, Gaylord, Mio, Roscommon and Atlanta. Employees began moving the week of March 13.

"This is an exciting time for our northern Michigan staffs," Harding said. "Bringing DEQ employees together under one roof results in greater efficiencies for our regional programs. In addition, the location of this modern facility provides the

public with excellent access.

"I am pleased with the progress of our move. It is our goal to prevent any inconveniences to the public during this time. While we are not anticipating problems, we would greatly appreciate the patience and understanding of our customers if a situation does arise."

The public is invited to tour the facility at an open house on April 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The office address is Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, 2100 W. M-32, P.O. Box 1830, Gaylord MI 49734-5830. The telephone number is (517) 731-4920 and the fax number is (517) 731-6181.

Two grants awarded by NCMCF

The Crawford County Committee of North Central Michigan Community Foundation (NCMCF) approved two grants totaling \$750 as a result of NCMCF's winter grant cycle.

The Red Cross Chapter for Northern Lower Michigan will receive \$250 for Disaster Assistance Training. The Red Cross will receive additional funding through NCMCF from Oscoda and Roscommon Counties.

Also receiving a grant is Riverhouse Shelter and Domestic Crisis Center. The Riverhouse Building Project will be supported by a \$500 grant to be used towards

the purchase of land.

Both of these grants are being funded by NCMCF's Crawford County General Fund.

The deadline for the spring grant cycle is March 31, 2000. Mini Grant applications for up to \$300 are being accepted by NCMCF's Crawford County Committee. Both Mini and Common Grant application forms are currently available from O.R.C.A. Youth Advisory Council.

Contact NCMCF's office at 701 Lake Street in Roscommon by calling (517) 275-3112. All completed applications must be returned by March 31, 2000.



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Continued from Page 1A

is uncertain the exact extent large items are impacting the costs of the trash operation as a whole, and even eliminating them would likely not solve the operation's money concerns.

"We know it's affecting it, but we don't know how much," said Girard.

Girard also added, "I'm not for doing away with large items because then you find them in the woods. That's the sad reality of it."

Hulbert said he would not be in favor of another millage to fund the trash operation, and recommended the board look at the possibility of bringing about a special assessment

instead. A special assessment, he said, would mean "everyone pays the same and everyone gets the same services."

Under the current millage system, households pay different amounts based on assessments, and, as Hulbert put it, "Those who don't use it are subsidizing those that use it."

Girard presented four options to the board and financial estimates for each, and added the special assessment as a fifth option at the March meeting following discussion.

The township's current millage is for two mills. Frederic's trash service options, as presented, involve cutting services or increasing costs

The five main alternatives the board wants township voters to consider are:

- 1) offer roadside pick-up but eliminate the transfer station; estimate for cost: 1.9 mills;
- 2) keep a compactor site, but end the township's roadside pick-up; estimate for cost: 1.9 mills; Girard noted that this cost estimate includes moving the compactor to a new site through a bank loan to the township;
- 3) continue to offer roadside pick-up and a compactor site; estimate for cost: an increase in mills from 2 to 3.5; Girard said the 1.5 mill increase would create a jump in

property taxes costing the average household an additional \$45 per year:

- 4) end the township's trash millage, which would end trash service in Frederic;
- 5) put together a special assessment to pay for trash services;

Girard wants township residents to make the final decision.

"I want them (the voters) to decide," said Girard. "Take it out of our hands."

The Frederic Township Board opted to schedule a special meeting to hear public comment on the trash issue for Saturday, April 15, at the Frederic Township Hall at 11 a.m.

Continued from Page 1A

bathrooms, a kitchen, and a 30-foot by 40-foot meeting room that could be opened and closed off as needed and is equipped with a separate entrance. The building would be a 40-foot by 60-foot structure in all, with a 40 by 60 parking lot.

As for where the new hall could be built, Girard said he has talked with the Frederic Hobby Club and an agreement looks promising. The Hobby Club, which owns property just across the street from the current township hall in Frederic, would donate the land in exchange for use of the new building room when needed, Girard said.

"A pretty fair trade," he added.

The Hobby Club, a local service organization, would benefit by not

having to pay for utilities as it does on its current building.

If this project does become a reality, what the township would do with the old town hall is uncertain.

Girard said the building could be used by the Frederic Fire Department for meetings or storage, and the basement would still be used for bingo.

The current heating system would probably be adequate for the Fire Department's needs, and the department wouldn't have the same necessity for handicap accessibility as the township, he said.

The proposal by the Building Trades class for a new Frederic Township Hall started out as a series of talks between Building Trades instructor Gil Cerelli and township

officials. The class was finishing some much-needed repairs in the township hall's basement, and in talking with Cerelli, Girard mentioned other renovations that needed to be done, and that "one of these days we have to build a new township hall."

From there, the proposal started to formulate, and they eventually worked to create a basic floor plan, which Girard presented to the Frederic Township Board at the March board meeting.

Girard asked the township board to authorize him to start the paperwork for a loan to cover the building materials, for up to \$85,000 over 15 years, noting that if the project doesn't happen, the township wouldn't have to take the loan.

"I think we should at least get the paperwork together," said Trustee Karen Bindschatel. "Can't hurt anything."

The board voted 5-0 to have Girard proceed with loan preparations.

The construction of a new Frederic Township Hall is expected to take the Building Trades class three or four semesters to complete, if the project goes through.

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during the month. They point out that the harsh cold of winter tends to keep people indoors as much as possible. But with the first signs of spring, people are motivated to leave the confines of their homes. In the same way, the Neighborhood Ford Dealers say, they are motivated to offer exceptional values at this time of year in order to make buying a new Ford vehicle easier for the public. Given the scope of the Break Out sales event and the savings being offered, it is likely that many will heed their invitation to Break Out of their old, cold ways and get into a new Ford.

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OBITUARIES

(For more Obituaries, see Page 12A)

Clarence Gingerick

Clarence "Louie" Gingerick, 55, of Grayling died Thursday, March 23, 2000 at St. Mary's Hospital, Saginaw.

Mr. Gingerick was born in Fostoria, Ohio, November 7, 1944, the son of Clyde and Vivian (Smith) Koch. He married Mary Jo Archambeau December 2, 1972 in Clawson.

He has been a resident of Grayling since 1955. "Louie" graduated from Grayling High School in 1963. He served his country in the U.S. Air Force from August 1965 to August 1969, during the Vietnam era. He worked at Grayling Reel and since 1996 has worked for CCI Construction.

He was a loving husband and father and would go out of his way to help anyone who asked him for help.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Jo; one daughter, Julie Gingerick of Grayling; one son, Mark Gingerick of Grayling; four sisters, June (Earl) Griffith of Grayling; Donna (Ed) Malinowski of Grayling; Sarah (Carl) Beck of Roscommon and Rose (Dave) Jernberg of Grayling; two brothers, George (Nancy) Gingerick of Grayling and John (Linda) Gingerick of Essexville; many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., March 27 at the Sorenson Funeral Home with Rev. Joe Carpenter officiating. Burial was in Elmwood Cemetery, Grayling. Military rites were accorded Mr. Gingerick by the Camp Grayling National Guard.

Memorials may be directed to the family.

Arrangements by: Sorenson Funeral Home, Inc., McEvers Chapel.

Theodore "Ted" Leng

Theodore "Ted" Leng, 65, of Berrien Springs died March 3, 2000 at his residence.

Mr. Leng was born in Frederic, April 19, 1934, the son of Ace D. and Letha (Ridgeway) Leng. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving from November, 1952 to September, 1956. He was a former Berrien Springs County Sheriff's Deputy in Stevensville. He then worked as a truck driver for 30 years, retiring from Manfredi Motor Transit Company. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Stevensville, and the Stevensville American Legion Post No. 568.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lavern Leng who died June 16, 1987; his parents; a brother, Alan Leng; and a sister, Elaine Leng.

Survivors include three daughters, Vicki Jackson and Pam Kettlehut, both of Denver, Colorado, and Stacey (Aaron) Camargo-Chavez of Berrien Springs; three sons, Steve (Vicky) Leng of Union, Guy (Bonnie) Leng of Osceola, Indiana, and Brett (Lori) Leng of Berrien Springs; 11 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a sister, Sue (Guy) Kellogg of Battle Creek; a sister-in-law, Muriel Leng of Frederic; and long time family friends, John and Debbie Ersland of Bridgman and Ella Maria Welsh of Plymouth, Ohio.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 7 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Stevensville. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, St. Joseph. Military rites were conducted by the Stevensville American Legion Post No. 568.

Memorial contributions may be given to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Stevensville or to Hospice At Home, Stevensville.

Helen Louise Nower

Helen Louise Nower, 87, of Grayling died Wednesday, March 22, 2000 at Mercy Hospital, Grayling.

Mrs. Nower was born in Lawrence on June 1, 1912, the daughter of Orren Rollo and Ida Jeannette (Sanborn) Young. She married Arthur Baxter Nower on November 3, 1934 in Lawrence. Mrs. Nower had retired as a State of Michigan social worker where she was a court appointed guardian for as many as 30 people over a period of 20 years in Van Buren County.

She moved to Grayling four years ago.

She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a Lioness.

She was preceded in death by her husband Arthur Nower in May 1996; and two brothers, Harold Young and Mike Young.

She is survived by one daughter, Jan (Gordon) Farley of Grayling; two grandchildren, Wade (Nancy) Gee of Saginaw and Wendy Gee of Dallas, Texas; one great-grandchild, Jenifer Gee of Saginaw; and two sisters, Mildred Richardson of Grayling and Lois (Keith) Wilson of St. Petersburg, Florida.

A remembrance of her life was held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the F. O. P. Hall in Lawrence, Saturday, March 25.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Heart Association in Mrs. Nower's name.

Arrangements by: Sorenson Funeral Home, Inc., McEvers Chapel.

Card of Thanks

I would like to add a personal thank-you to my clients for their friendship and understanding and to my A Cut Above family for all of their love and support. Also Rita, Betsy and Charlie at North Flight for trying so hard to help me get my dad home.

My thanks go out to my dear friend Wess Ritter for building the most beautiful wheelchair ramp for my dad at my immediate request.

A special appreciation to the McConnell's and to Laura Williams. Your hard work and accomplishments will never be forgotten.

Last but certainly not least, my thanks to all of Crawford County.

Friends of Catherine Baker

Mary (Alef) Neal

Dorothy E. Slusser

Dorothy Elizabeth Slusser, 90, of Troy, formerly of Grayling, died Tuesday, March 21, 2000 in Troy.

Mrs. Slusser was born in Grape on September 17, 1909, the daughter of Spencer James and Mary Ellen (Krebs) Dennis.

She married Ralph Otis Slusser June 22, 1928 in Flint.

She retired in 1950 after 10 years as a meat wrapper for Wrigleys Grocery Store in Birmingham.

She was a member and Past Madam President of the Fraternal Order of Eagles - Ladies Auxiliary in Grayling and a member and Past Madam President of the Loyal Order of Moose in Grayling.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph on December 28, 1978.

She is survived by three daughters, Dorothy E. Schweitzer of Troy, Patricia (William) Monahan of Utica and Betty (Carl) Ross of Grand Blanc; 13 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and 18 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Thursday, March 23 at the Price Funeral Home with Reverend Richard B. Cryderman officiating. Burial was in the Christian Memorial Cemetery, Rochester Hills.

Memorial contributions may be made to Beaumont Hospice.

Toni Nielson

Toni Nielson, daughter of Lacey and Florence Stephan passed away March 23, 2000.

There will be a memorial service at 11 a.m., April 8, 2000 at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

A gathering at Lacey and Carol Stephan's will be held following the service.

Catherine Baker

Catherine Baker, 84, of Grayling died Friday, March 24, 2000, at the Grayling Health Centre.

Mrs. Baker was born in Henderson, March 3, 1916, the daughter of Clarence and Catherine (Teskey) Baker. She resided in Grayling the last 20 years after returning to her birth state. She worked for 30 years as a registered nurse in New York and New Jersey. She worked as a private duty nurse and in hospitals. She had traveled extensively prior to her return to Michigan.

She did a lot of volunteer work for R.S.V.P. and the local Senior Citizens Center.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence Baker and Catherine Jane Austin Baker, two stillborn children, an infant daughter and her ex-husband.

Per her request, cremation has been carried out and no funeral services will be held. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Owosso.

Donations in her memory can be made to the Animal Shelter of Crawford County, P.O. Box 869, Grayling, MI 49738.

In Memory of

Norm Bancroft

Dear Doris,

Though I didn't know your son, Norm, I do know that he was thought highly of by many of us in the genealogy world. There are many, many of us that have benefited from his efforts, and will for many years to come. The Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild was fortunate to have him as a volunteer and is where I was able to find wonderful information about my grandparents. Your son has left a wonderful and enduring legacy. Please accept my sympathies and prayers.

Susan A. Perry



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American Beauty - R (190)
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Skulls - PG-13 (147)
Starring - Paul Walker & Joshua Jackson
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Whatever It Takes - PG-13 (137)
Starring - Shayne West
• 7 & 9 nightly • Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4

Road to El Dorado - PG (83)
Voices - Kevin Kline & Rosie Perez
• 7:15 & 9 nightly • Sat. & Sun. 2:15 & 4

Erin Brockovich - R (131)
Starring - Julia Roberts
• 7 & 9:15 nightly • Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4:15

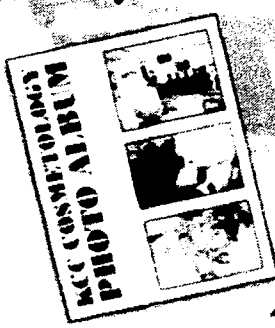
Final Destination - R (104)
Starring - Devon Sawa
• 9:15 nightly • Sat. & Sun. 4:15

Mission To Mars - PG (113)
Starring - Gary Sinise
• 7 nightly • Sat. & Sun. 2

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The relationship between spinal health and carpal tunnel has been documented by a number of individuals who found nerve compression in the neck, which can block the flow of nutrients to the nerves in the wrist.

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MILITARY NEWS

Nate Beckwith, a 1999 graduate of Grayling High School, enlisted into the National Guards on January 27. He enlisted into the 1438th Engineer Detachment as a 51R. Interior Electrician, and will depart for Fort Benning, Georgia on March 9 to begin basic training and then move to Fort Leonardwood, Missouri for job training.

As an interior electrician, he will install, maintain interior electrical systems up to 600 volts; read and interpret drawings, plans and specifications; install service panels, switches and electrical boxes; install metallic and nonmetallic sheathed cable, conduit and special electrical equipment; use test equipment to test operational condition of circuits; assists in performance of combat engineer missions.

Beckwith qualified for the \$5,000 cash bonus, 50% tuition reimbursement program and the GI Bill for \$16,380. He is the son of Jack and Ann Beckwith of Grayling, and son of Rene Knopp of East Jordan.

Allen Dickie, a senior at Grayling High School, enlisted into the National Guards on January 20 as a 63W. Wheel Vehicle Repairer. Major duties as a wheel vehicle repairer will be to perform direct support and general support maintenance on wheel vehicles. This includes, but not limited to, the following tasks: repair diesel power plants/packs, wheel vehicle clutch assemblies, compression ignition engine fuel systems, compression ignition air induction systems, vehicle liquid cooling systems, electrical systems, transmission assemblies, transfer assemblies and axle assemblies.

Dickie enlisted as an E-2 under the stripes for buddies program, and will be departing for basic training

June 15. He is assigned to the 1183rd MLRS, multiple launch rocket systems, Detachment. He is eligible for the \$5,000 cash bonus, GI Bill for \$9,180 and the 50% tuition reimbursement program. Dickie is the son of Charles and Irene Dickie of Grayling.



MSGT Terry L. Vandecar

Master Sergeant Terry L. Vandecar of Grayling was awarded a U.S. Army Meritorious Service medal by Colonel Gary J. McConnell, Commander of Camp Grayling Maneuver Training Center during a recent Command Formation. The commendation reads, "The United States of America. To all who shall see these presents, greeting: This is to certify that the President of the United States of America authorized by Executive Order, 16 January 1969 has awarded The Meritorious Service Medal to Master Sergeant Terry L. Vandecar, Maneuver Training Center, Camp Grayling, Michigan Army National Guard for distinguishing himself by meritorious service to the Michigan Army National Guard during the period

July 1995 to September 1998 while serving as First Sergeant of the Maneuver Training Center. His professional competency, initiative and successful administrative strategies contributed materially to the success of the Maneuver Training Center being recognized as a premiere training site. Master Sergeant Vandecar reflects great credit upon himself, the Maneuver Training Center and the Michigan Army National Guard." Signed Major General E. Gordon Stump. The Adjutant General of Michigan.

Sergeant First Class Thomas G. Brooks of Grayling was awarded a Legion of Merit, by Colonel Gary J. McConnell, Commander of Camp Grayling Maneuver Training Center during a recent Command Formation. The commendation reads, "Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, This is to certify that the Adjutant General of Michigan has awarded the Legion of Merit to Sergeant First Class Thomas G. Brooks, Maneuver Training Center, Camp Grayling, Michigan Army National Guard for exceptionally meritorious service as the Airfield Services Supervisor at the Grayling Army Airfield. During his 24 year career, SFC Brooks constantly displayed an exceptionally high degree of professional and technical ability. He demonstrated, on all occasions, a thorough knowledge of his work, exceptional dependability and resoluteness of purpose.

SFC Brooks will truly be missed, and his distinguished record of service reflects great upon himself, the Maneuver Training Center, and the Michigan Army National Guard. Signed Major General E. Gordon Stump, Adjutant General of Michigan.

OBITUARIES

Larry D. Eckardt Sr.

Larry D. Eckardt Sr., 58, of Grayling died Sunday, March 26, 2000 at Mercy Hospital, Grayling.

Mr. Eckardt was born in Pontiac on July 1, 1941, the son of Lawrence Orin and Eloise Lenore (Brom) Eckardt. He married Carole Lundberg on June 24, 1961 in Milford. He worked at Detroit Diesel for 25 years in Romulus. After Mr. Eckardt retired from General Motors he moved to Grayling, where he was currently employed by Weyerhaeuser as a supply clerk. He was a member of the Eagles and the Grayling County Club. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing darts and golfing. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Janice and JoAnne; and one brother, Barry.

He is survived by his wife, Carole; two daughters, Cristin (Maurice) Aquilina of Fowlerville and Autumn (Jim) Romain of Saginaw; one son, Larry D. Eckardt Jr. of Dayton, Ohio; one sister, Joyce Hook of Romulus.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 1, 2000, at the Eagles on M72 East. An open house will follow the service. The family requests that no flowers be sent and that all donations be made payable to the Eckhardt family.

Arrangements by: Sorenson Funeral Home, Inc., McEvers Chapel.

In Loving Memory of Our Sister

Cindy (Pinhead) Studer

Even though you are not here with us, you will ALWAYS be in our hearts. We take great comfort in the knowledge that you are walking with Jesus in a home full of Love. We miss you and love you always.

Your Brothers and Sisters,
Harry, Dale, Jennie Lee,
Sharon, Joanne, Dixie

Card of Thanks

The family of Jack Alef extends our heartfelt thanks for all of the thoughts and prayers offered for the loss of our father. The cards, letters, and donations made to the Grayling Youth Booster Club in his memory mean so much. Thank you to all.

The family of Jack Alef

GRAYLING POLICE

The following 48 complaints were handled by the Grayling Police Dept. from March 19-25:

Two animal control complaints, one felony arrest, one misdemeanor arrest, one assault, eight assists to other departments, one civil complaint, one domestic complaint, four juvenile complaints, two larcenies, one malicious destruction of property, two motorist assists, one OUIL, three suspicious situations, three private property accidents, three traffic accidents, one personal injury accident, two civil infraction citations, two misdemeanor citations, one traffic control complaint, eight miscellaneous complaints. In addition, seven traffic warnings were given.

April 17th is right around the corner. So are we.

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FREDERIC COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

The Frederic Community Library recently changed hours. The new hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The library is closed on Wednesday, Friday, Sunday and holidays. The phone number is (517) 348-4067.

The library has Internet access for public use. There are also lots of new R.I.F. books. Your child can earn a free paperback book by reading five books.

Some new titles on hand are: *The Cat Who Robbed a Bank* by Lillian Jackson Braun, *Day of Reckoning* by Jack Higgins, *Certain Prey* by John Sandford, *Outfoxed* by Rita Mae Brown, *The Brethren* by John Grisham, *Survival of the Fittest* by Jonathan Kellerman, *A House Divided* by Catherine Cookson, *Daughter of Fortune* by Isabel Allende, *Empire Express: Building the First Transcontinental Railroad* by David Howard Bain, *Ahab's Wife* by Sena Jeter Naslund, *Dutch: A Memoir of Ronald Reagan* by

Edmund Morris, *Chicken Soup for the Cat and Dog Lover's Soul* by Jack Canfield, *Dr. Atkin's New Diet Revolution* by Robert C. Atkins, M.D., *What Every Parent Should Know About Vaccines* by Paul Offit, M.D., *Stop Smoking, Stay Skinny* by Dr. Joseph T. Martorano, *If You Think You Have Panic Disorder and If You Think You Have Depression* by Roger Granet, M.D., *Beat Your Ticket: Go To Court and Win* by David Brown, *Legal Guide for Starting and Running a Small Business, Volumes 1 and 2* by Fred S. Steingold, *Nolo's Everyday Law Book* by Shae Irving, *Official Price Guide to Antiques and Collectibles, 17th Edition*, *Social Security, Medicare and Pensions: Get the Most Out of Your Retirement and Medical Benefits* by Joseph L. Matthews.

The Frederic Community Library also has a lot of new videos and children's books to offer.

Stop in the library today and check out a video or a good book to read.

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Seance reveals secrets in stage production of 'The Uninvited'



Photos by Cheryl Ruley



Sudden bone-chilling cold, the heavy smell of Mimosa perfume, a portrait with an eerie glow and the sound of a weeping women in the nursery lead the new owners of Cliff End to wonder if their new home is haunted. Indeed a ghost prowls the premises and a seance reveals answers to the mystery of the weeping woman and the true identity of a main character's mother.

The crew created top-notch set and lighting, and the special effects were quite realistic.

Each year the GHS Drama department produces one musical and one play.

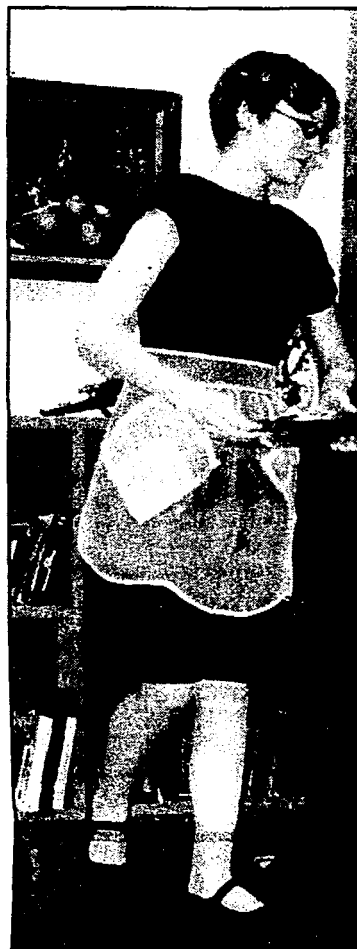


Last week, the GHS Players brought ghost story and mystery thriller "The Uninvited" to the stage of the Joseph Stripe Auditorium at Grayling High School.

Playing the lead roles of *Pam* and *Roddy Fitzgerald* were Sarah Carmean and John McNamara. *Lizzie Flynn* was portrayed by Colby Davis.

In supporting roles were Heidi Niederer as *Stella Meredith*, Jason Glicker as *Commander Brooke*, Gina Rosi as *Mrs. Jessup*, Rachel Ramaswamy as *Wendy*, Forrest Thompson as *Max Hillard*, Todd Gaffke as *Dr. Scott*, and Jessica Holzbauer as *Miss Holloway*. And, as a surprise to all at the end of the first performance it was revealed that Cheryl Papendick played *The Ghost*.

The stage crew, under the technical direction of Mark Binert and James Carmean, included: Student Technical Director Teresa Legg, Student Lighting Director Michelle Stepp, and the Stage and Construction Crew of Will Armstrong, Amanda Boone, Shane Ferrell, Charley McNamara, Sonya Saladine, Heather Hatfield, and Ann Hughes.



Bingo

Sunday - 1:30 pm
Grayling Eagles Auxiliary #3465
 Eagles Club, 602 Huron
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Wednesday - 6:30 pm
Knights of Columbus
 K of C Hall, 604 Norway
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Thursday - 6:30 pm
American Legion Hall
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Friday - 6:30 pm
Grayling Eagles Aerie #3465
 Eagles Club, 602 Huron
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Candidates at all levels face new requirements

Secretary of State Candice S. Miller reminds all candidates seeking a state, county or local office this year, that new filing requirements went into effect March 10 under legislation signed into law in December 1999.

The new laws shift petition signature requirements to a graduated scale tied to the population of the district, as first proposed by the Secretary of State's Special Advisory Committee on Elections.

"This marks the first change in state election law to come from recommendations proposed by the Special Advisory Committee on Elections," Secretary Miller said. "As we noted several years ago, the committee's recommendations are an excellent resource for state lawmakers considering ways to improve our elections system and I am hopeful they will continue to use

the recommendations as a guide on elections issues."

The new petition requirements apply to all candidates for state, judicial, county, township, charter township, village and city offices. Exceptions include the office of county commissioner and any offices where petition signatures requirements are set by city or village charter.

Also under the new laws, candidates subject to Michigan's Campaign Finance Act must certify that they are in full compliance with the disclosure law upon filing for office. A similar statement must be submitted prior to assuming office.

Other significant changes that go into effect on March 10 under the new laws include:

- A May 2 petition filing deadline for judicial candidates. The May 2 deadline is two weeks earlier than in

previous years, and applies to candidates for Appeals Court, Circuit Court, District Court, Probate Court, and Probate District Court.

- New penalties for filing a petition with falsified signatures. A misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and/or one year in prison can be imposed on candidates, petition sponsors, or any circulator aware of falsified signatures.

- A new provision requiring judicial candidates to contact the department's Bureau of Elections for information on the appropriate way to designate the position they seek on their petition forms.

- Extension of the use of county-

wide petition formats to a wider range of candidates, as proposed by the special advisory committee.

The Special Advisory Committee on Elections, appointed by Secretary Miller, met for more than 12 months during 1996 and 1997 to review the laws and rules that govern the conduct of elections. The committee's recommendations ranged from changes in procedures used for making access to the ballot more equitable, to consolidating elections and lifting restrictions on absentee voting.

Candidates who have questions are urged to contact the filing official for the office they are seeking.

Two seats up for grabs on Kirtland board

Kirtland Community College will conduct its biennial election of the community college district on Monday, June 12. Two members of the Board of Trustees are to be elected for full terms of six years ending June 30, 2006. The terms of Roy Spangler and Robert Bovee expire June 30, 2000.

Kirtland President Charles D. Rorie said that packets of materials for those who wish to run for the vacant Board seats will be available at his office on the campus, and at each of the County Clerk's offices in Crawford, Roscommon, Ogemaw and Oscoda counties, as well as at the six area school superintendents' offices.

The packets include nominating petitions, a required Affidavit of Identity form, and instructions. The

Affidavit must be signed by a Notary Public and returned to the President's Office, along with a candidate's nominating petitions by the deadline: 4 p.m., Monday, April 10.

The six area school superintendents' offices are located in Roscommon, 702 Lake Street; in Grayling 403 Michigan Avenue; in Houghton Lake, 6001 W. Houghton Lake Drive; in West Branch, 960 S. M-33; in Fairview, 1879 E. Miller Road, and, in Mio, 158 M-72.

Kirtland's Board of Trustees meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Board Room in the President's Office in the Administration Building on the College campus at 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI. The meetings are open to the public.

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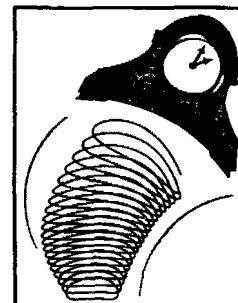
PhoneGuide® Advertising Consultants will be calling on area businesses soon in the following communities:

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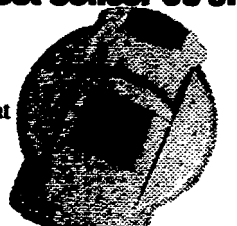
Spring ahead this weekend!

It's that time of year again when we turn the clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Savings Time at 2 a.m. on April 2

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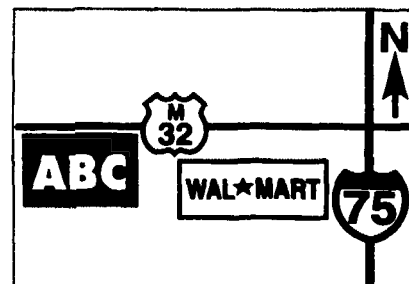
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MERCY BIRTHS

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Edward Morris and Jennifer Bloomer of Grayling announce the arrival of Silas Jordan Morris-Bloomer born March 8, 2000.

Gary and Shirley Davidson II of Houghton Lake announce the arrival of Nicklas Taylor Davidson born March 9, 2000.

Ryan Rapp and Jennifer Williams of Roscommon announce the arrival of Austen Thomas Williams born March 11, 2000.

Martin Jung and Tara Sheldon of Grayling announce the arrival of Alex Martin Jung born March 12, 2000.

Wayne Kuhn and Annie Gorski of Mio announce the arrival of Scott Kuhn born March 16, 2000.

Joe and Autumn Book of Grayling announce the arrival of Jesse Lee Book born March 17, 2000.

James and Heather Parks Jr. of Houghton Lake announce the arrival of Autumn Alexis Parks born March

18, 2000.

Timothy and Melody Barker of Mio announce the arrival of Kiara Amanda Michal Barker born March 20, 2000.

Vance and Susan Helzer of Grayling announce the arrival of Jeremiah Helzer born March 20, 2000.

Scott and Kimberly Michels of Grayling announce the arrival of Derek Mark Michels born March 20, 2000.

David White Jr. and Tonya Janes of Houghton Lake announce the arrival of Zachary White born March 20, 2000.

Steve May and Sara Howell of Grayling announce the arrival of Jordan Nichole May born March 21, 2000.

Todd and Cheryl Hatfield of Grayling announce the arrival of Mallory Ann Hatfield born March 22, 2000.

Jeff and Priscilla Blues of Houghton Lake announce the arrival of Preston Michael Blues born March 23, 2000.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

The following 88 complaints were handled by the Crawford County Sheriff's Department during the week of March 20 - March 26:

One driving violation/DWLS; three delinquent minors; two false alarms; 21 general non-criminal; six traffic accidents (four car-deer); one non-traffic accident; one traffic violation (civil infraction); one motor vehicle inspection; three civil mat-

ter/family trouble; four suspicious situations; two assault/intimidation/stalking; one burglary/home invasion; six larceny; four fraudulent activities; one embezzlement; four damage to property; one sex offenses/indecent exposure; five public peace/disorderly; 16 health and safety (14 animal control); two conservation; one miscellaneous criminal offense; one miscellaneous arrest.

INTERNET: www.townnews.com/avalanche/

No shortage of new arrivals

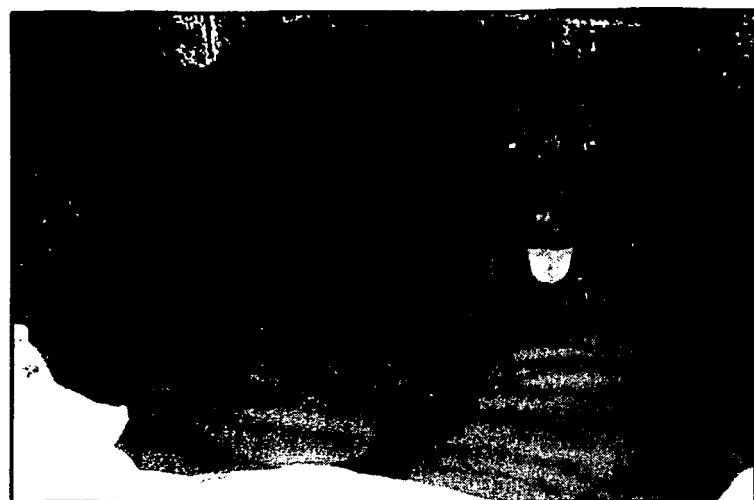


Photo by Cheryl Ruley

NEW MOM – Over the course of just four days, 24 new puppies were born to three dogs housed at the Animal Shelter of Crawford County. Here is Ruby, named for her red coat, with several puppies, some of which are not her own. Shelter Director Dixie Lobsinger has a sort of canine version of La Leche League going, putting puppies with whichever mother can provide enough milk. As cute as the puppies are, Lobsinger said she expects to be handling more cases of unwanted, pregnant dogs as spring progresses. All the more reason for her to stress the need for spay and neutering to decrease the amount of unwanted dogs and cats in Crawford County.

Kirtland Self-Study on display in Chicago

Kirtland Vice President for Instruction, Richard Silverman, says he was recently notified by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools that the Commission has selected Kirtland's Self-Study Report as one of the community college self-studies that will be displayed in the resource room and the self-study fair at the Commission's annual meeting in April in Chicago.

A five-member evaluation team from the Commission spent a three-day visit at Kirtland in February, 1999 to review the College's operations, examine its records, interview Board members, staff, faculty and students.

It was a process all educational institutions undergo in order to be re-accredited by NCA. Kirtland's confirmation of its accreditation

was received from the NCA in May, 1999.

In preparation for the February on-site visit, Kirtland had submitted a 273 page Self-Study Report to the Commission. The self-examination process and the writing of the report took more than two years to complete.

In a memo to all Kirtland employees Silverman said, "Congratulations to all of you who worked so hard to help put the study together. You should feel proud to have your work exhibited as an example for other educational institutions. It brings honor to you and to Kirtland."

Silverman gave special praise to English Instructor and Assessment Coordinator Sharon Hammond, "who coordinated the self-study effort," and to Deb Near, Assessment Secretary, "who provided all of the secretarial support."

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GHS band earns I's at District Festival

► Grayling band receives top marks at Band Festival to qualify for State

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

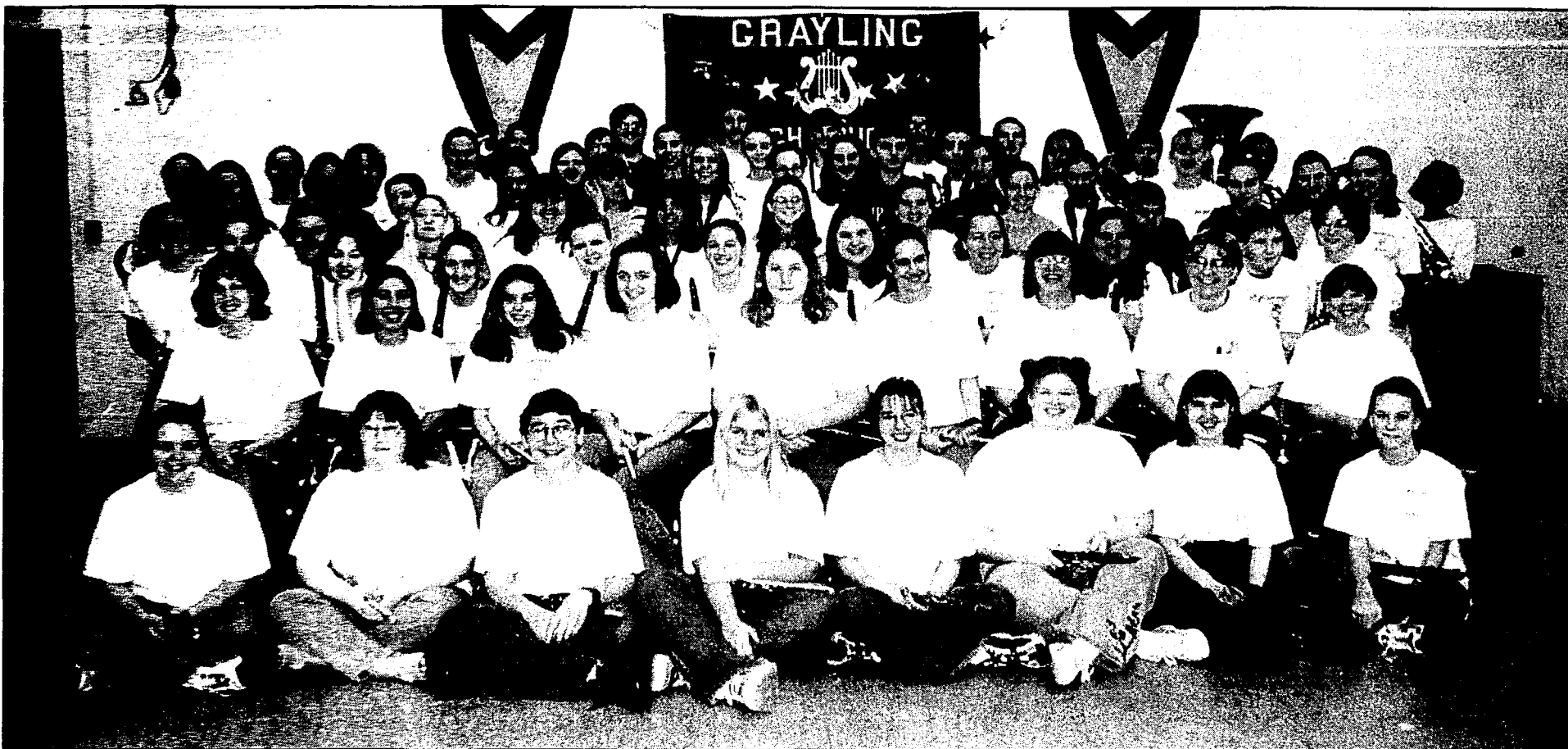
At District Band Festival last month, the Grayling High School band earned straight "I's," the highest rating possible, qualifying the group to play at State. (The GHS band will not be attending the State festival, however, since the band's trip to Washington D.C. in April conflicts with the event.)

The Band Festival was held at Elk Rapids this year. Judges at the event all gave Grayling high marks in the five categories: tone, intonation, rhythm, technique, and interpretation.

"Very nice stylistic performance," noted one judge. "What beautiful musical moments! I really appreciate the details you have paid attention to -- the musical style, dynamics, notes, rhythms -- you seem to have control of them all."

Continued on Page 3B

See "GHS BAND..."



The Grayling High School Band

Grayling solo/ensemble events play at State



Grayling High School Band solo/ensemble musicians

► 28 events from Grayling band earn I's at Districts to qualify for State

by Alexis Sumner
Student Writer

Thirty-four events took home medals at District Band Solo/Ensemble held in Gaylord.

Months of preparation paid off for the 55 band members that participated in the event on Saturday, February 12.

Twenty-eight events received a "I" rating, the highest rating one can receive. Events that received a I rating were:

Todd Gaffke, alto sax solo; Tiffany Ruark, flute solo; Krys Rugenstein, flute solo; Gina Rosi, xylophone solo; Anneliese Finke, tenor sax and piano solo; Tim Ormsbee and Ken Heinlein, tuba duet; Gwen Seifert, Leslie Gilbert, Nickole Hatley, and Sonya Saladine, clarinet quartet; Tiffany Ruark, piccolo solo; Tim Ormsbee, tuba solo; Gwen Seifert and Jason Henning, clarinet duet; Jenna Bugyi and Lexi

Bondar, flute duet; Patti Martella, clarinet solo; Jason Henning, clarinet solo; Krys Rugenstein, piccolo solo; Jenna Bugyi, flute solo; Ryan Mirate, trumpet solo; Jessie Strait, clarinet solo; Tiffany Ruark, alto sax solo; Matt Thomas, Tim Ormsbee, Ryan Mirate, Erin Scott, and Ken Heinlein, brass quintet; Gina Rosi, Shannon Plutko, Ashley Bancroft, percussion trio; Gwen Seifert, clarinet solo; Lexi Bondar, flute solo; Nickole Hatley, clarinet solo; Erin Scott, French horn solo; Ken Heinlein, tuba solo; and Krys Rugenstein and Jason Henning, flute/clarinet duet.

The six events receiving the second highest rating, a "II" rating, were:

Ann Hughes, trumpet solo; Alexis Sumner, bass clarinet solo; Alesha Wargo, clarinet solo; Tracy Parkinson, flute solo; Monica Kustra, Coleman Payne, and William Brewer, baritone trio; Danyell Larson and Amanda St. Amour, flute duet; and Patti Martella and Shannon Terry, flute duet.

Twenty-six of the GHS band Continued on Page 3B

See "GHS SOLO/ENSEMBLE..."

8th grade band qualifies for State

► 7th & 8th grade GMS bands play at District Festival, 8th graders make State

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

The Grayling Middle School 8th grade band qualified to play at the State Festival earlier this month by earning straight "I" ratings at District Band Festival held in Elk Rapids.

The 7th grade band put in a good performance, but just missed qualifying for State. "It was one of those things where if a B+ was an A- (they would have made it)," said Grayling Band Director Dennis Ormsbee.

The 7th grade band received two I's and two II's.

"I was pleased with the student

results," said David Gott, Director of the 7th grade band. "They did a really nice job. It was a challenging program and they did a good job with it. It was a mix of music. One piece was very 'contemporary.' There were a lot of interesting things in there."

The GMS 8th graders received all I's. Judges gave Grayling high marks, and praised the group's effort.

"You are a very good group," wrote one judge. "You play very well and are very musical in your playing. You have put a lot of effort into this music and you play it well. I really enjoyed your performance today."

"Overall, a good performance today," noted another judge. "You do many things well and I enjoyed

Continued on Page 3B

See "8TH GRADE BAND..."



The Grayling Middle School 8th Grade Band

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GHS wrestler wins state girls tournament

► Vollmer qualifies for Nationals with win at State, takes second in nation

Grayling High School senior Marianne Vollmer took first place at the Michigan Girls Wrestling State Championship tournament, winning the 120-pound weight division with three consecutive pins.

The win qualified Vollmer for the Nationals, at which she took second.

Vollmer, a member of the GHS wrestling team, competed in the Girls State Wrestling Tournament for the fourth straight year in 2000, winning her third tourney championship.

(She took first place in her freshman and junior seasons, and took fifth in her sophomore year.)

Both the state and national girls tournaments were held at Lake Orion, Michigan, this year.

At State, Vollmer pinned her first opponent at 5:19, her second in 3:33, and her third in 3:19, winning the championship.

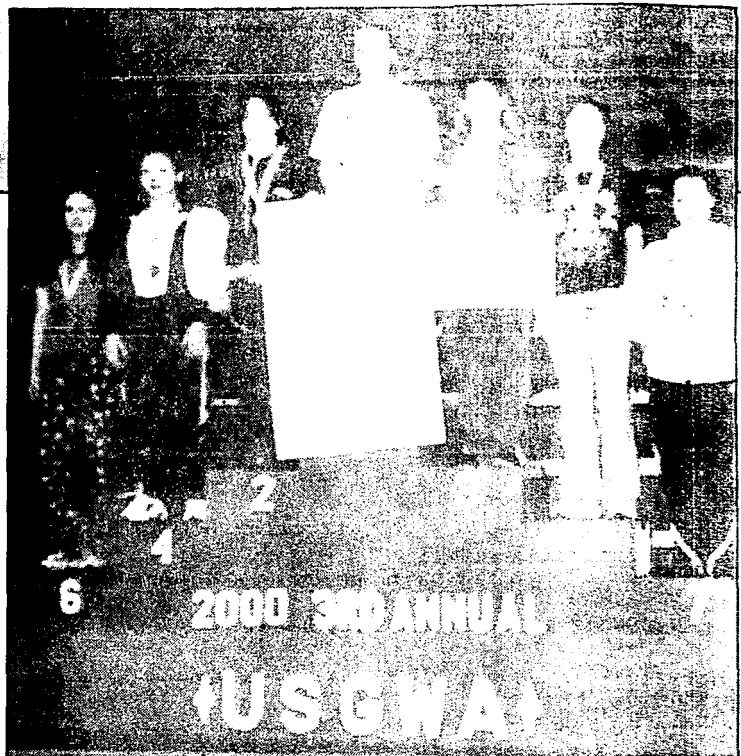
At Nationals, held this past weekend, Vollmer won her first match against a girl from Idaho with a pin at 5:10. She then pinned an opponent from California at 4:52, and won her third match of the tourney with a 7-5 decision against a wrestler from Texas.

Vollmer lost the championship bout to a girl from Connecticut by decision, 11-5, finishing the tournament in second place.



(Above) Grayling wrestler Marianne Vollmer competes at Nationals, held in Lake Orion this past weekend. (Right) Vollmer, with a 3-1 record at Nationals, took 2nd place. Vollmer qualified for the National Tournament by taking first place in her weight division at the State tourney.

Over 400 girls from all over the U.S. competed in Nationals this year.



Local barrel horse racer qualifies for World Championship

► Overcoming tragedy, Grayling's Amie Price takes 1st in youth division

Amie Price, a senior at Grayling High School, received a belt buckle on March 18, honoring her for First Overall in the Youth Division of a National Barrel Horse Association, overcoming the tragedy of losing her horse to illness.

Along with the buckle, Price also

received an invitation to compete in the World Championship in Jackson, Mississippi.

Not a dry eye was in the house as Price received her buckle in front of an audience of about 100 people.

Midway through the racing season, as Price sat on top the Youth Division, and was doing well in the Open Division with some big wins. Then her #1 horse, Playful, came up ill.

As she was rushed to Michigan State University (MSU) for treatment, Playful died.

Price, overcome with grief, turned on her survivor instincts and started working with another horse. With half the season to go and her top position at stake, the young rider had her work cut out for her dealing with the inexperienced horse.

Price rose to the challenge and worked very hard for the First Overall honors.

This fall, Price plans to enroll in a veterinary education program at MSU or Texas A&M in Kingsville, Texas.



AMIE PRICE
First Overall - Youth Division
National Barrel Horse Association

GRA girls basketball league champions

(Right) The champions of this year's Grayling Recreation Authority girls basketball league, with their first place trophy: June Clark, Katie Baynham, Jenny VanNuck, Jodi Riddle, Rachel Garrod, Kelly Dunkley. Not pictured: Chelsea Wolcott.



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8th grade band qualifies for State

Continued from Page 1B
some very musical moments. It has been my pleasure to adjudicate your band today."

Ormsbee, Director of the 8th grade band, was pleased with the performance of his students, both on the stage and off.

"They are a really fine group,"

said Ormsbee, "though small. At 25 members, they're probably one of the smaller groups Grayling has seen, but they are fine musicians. They showed it in their performance."

"They were fine ladies and gentlemen all day long," continued Ormsbee. "We went early to support

the 7th grade band, about two or three hours early, and there were no discipline problems. They were excellent ambassadors for Grayling."

With the high marks Grayling's 8th grade band received at District Festival, the group qualified for the State Festival to be held May 5-6.

Many GMS band members, both 7th and 8th graders, will play at the upcoming middle school solo/ensemble event.

Over 50 events from Grayling Middle School will play at the solo/ensemble festival, which will be held on April 15 at Johannesburg.



Grayling Middle School 7th Grade Band

Three GHS band members named to WMU group

► Ormsbee, Seifert and Scott selected to Western's Robert W. Smith ensemble

Three Grayling High School band members -- Tim Ormsbee, Erin Scott, and Gwen Seifert -- will represent Grayling in the Western Michigan University Robert W. Smith All-Star Band.

At WMU, two all-star ensembles will be assembled as part of the

32nd annual Spring Conference on Wind and Percussion Music. The event is hosted by WMU's School of Music.

The 120-member Robert W. Smith All-Star Band will perform at WMU on Friday, March 31, in the James W. Miller Auditorium. The second all-star ensemble, the 80-member All-Star Repertory Band, will spend time reading newly published works for band.

The Robert W. Smith All-Star Band will be conducted by guest composer Robert W. Smith, and

William Pease, Associate Director of Bands at WMU.

The All-Star Repertory Band will be hosted by Dr. John Lychner, conductor of the University Concert Band.

Over 230 outstanding young musicians from 75 Michigan high schools were nominated by their band directors for seats in these two ensembles. Professors from WMU's School of Music selected those who

will have the opportunity to participate in the ensembles.

Three GHS band members were chosen for the Robert W. Smith All-Star Band: Ormsbee, tuba; Scott, horn; and Seifert, clarinet. Ormsbee was named "first chair."

The all-star band will play at 7:30 p.m. on March 31 at WMU's Miller Auditorium. The event is open to the public, and there is no admission charge.

GHS solo/ensemble events play at State

Continued from Page 1B
events receiving a "I" rating at District Band Solo/Ensemble competed at the State Solo/Ensemble on March 25 at Ferris State University.

At the state level solos are graded by proficiencies. Freshmen perform their selected solo. Proficiencies are graded on a scale from one to 100. Performers must play a selected solo, a selected number of scales, and a sight reading piece. Proficiency III is judged as the hardest. Scales being played by the performer in proficiency III can be selected from any major or minor scale.

At State, the following events received a "I" rating: Ken Heinlein, tuba solo; Lexi Bondar, flute solo;

Jenna Bugyi, flute solo; Gina Rosi, Ashley Bancroft, Shannon Plutko, percussion trio; Tim Ormsbee, Matt Thomas, Ryan Mirate, Erin Scott, Ken Heinlein, brass quintet; Gwen Seifert, clarinet solo; Leslie Gilbert, Gwen Seifert, Nickole Hatley, Sonya Saladine, clarinet quartet; Patti Martella, clarinet solo; Krys Rugenstein, Jason Henning, flute/clarinet duet; Ryan Mirate, trumpet solo; Todd Gaffke, alto sax solo; Tiffany Ruark, flute solo; Tim Ormsbee, tuba solo; Ken Heinlein, tuba solo; Krys Rugenstein, piccolo solo; Krys Rugenstein, flute solo; Tim Ormsbee, tuba solo; Tiffany Ruark, piccolo solo; Anneliese Finke, piano solo; Gwen Seifert, Jason Henning, clarinet duet.

GHS band earns I's at District Festival

Continued from Page 1B

"What a nice band sound," added another judge.

"It was a really fun performance," said Band Director Dennis Ormsbee. "It was an enjoyment to be with this group all day long."

Ormsbee noted that at Elk Rapids, Grayling performed right after the Benzie Central band, which also ended up receiving straight "I's."

"When you follow a great band, you have to play good as well," Ormsbee said. "The grades (GHS

band members received) are a credit to the time they've put in and the work they've been doing all year."

The Grayling band will be leaving for Washington D.C. on April 26, and will return on April 30. The band hopes to play at the Senate and check out a performance by a Navy or Marine service band.

Band members will also visit several areas of interest in Washington D.C. during their trip, including Arlington National Cemetery and the Smithsonian, among many others.



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Mary is a Nurse Practitioner with a MSN degree from
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Practitioner for one year in Family Practice and three years
in Internal Medicine. She has a Doctor of Naturopathy degree
and a Ph.D. in Natural Health from Clayton College of
Natural Health. She is certified as a Nurse Practitioner and
as a Holistic Nurse.

"We are here for life."

Omni Otsego Memorial Hospital

Local trout jump the AuSable falls

(The following article was submit-
ted by Frank Krajenka of Grayling.
Krajenka, a sales associate at the
Grayling Comfort Center, enjoys
writing, drawing, and taking pho-
tographs in his spare time.)

Tuesday, March 7, was an event
signaling the onset of spring that is
rarely witnessed by the residents of
Central Northern Michigan. It was a
typical weekday morning, though
unusually warm, in the mid 50's by
10 a.m. As the town residents hur-
ried to work, our local Rainbow
trout population was rushing to
jump the falls at the park across
from Ray's Canoe Livery. My son
Bryan and I just happened to be
there to witness the spectacular
determination of the beautiful fish.

Several strains of Rainbow trout
now reside in the AuSable River and
its various branches. According to
our local fisheries technologist,
Rainbow trout have been purchased
from private owners and fish farm-
ers, as well as escaping from the
ponds of the fish hatchery, which is
operated by the Grayling Recreation
Authority.

Each year in late July, during the
AuSable River Festival, several
hundred of these trout are placed in
the AuSable River just above the
falls in Grayling. A fence is then
stretched across the river at the top
of the falls and about 150 yards
upstream, under the railroad bridge.
A kids fishing contest is then held
for one day, after which the fences
are removed allowing the trout to
swim free.

As the fences are removed, a large
percentage of the rainbows go
downstream, over the falls, and dis-
perse throughout the river. These



Photo courtesy of Frank Krajenka

On March 7, AuSable River rainbow trout attempted to jump the waterfall at the City
Park, across from Ray's Canoe Livery.

pond-raised fish spend the next 2-3
years growing naturally until they
reach spawning age. Having spent
their life as fry and adolescent trout
in a pond, then dumped into the
pond-like section of river, these
trout react similar to the Rainbow
trout of the Great Lakes, also known
as steelhead.

Yes, some of our local trout think
they are steelhead. As the snow
melts, the water level and tempera-
ture rises triggering an uncontroll-
able urge to spawn in some of the
strains of rainbows now in the river.
These trout think they were born
somewhere above that waterfall so
that is where they have to go. And

go they did!

From 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Bryan
and I saw over 100 mighty leaps at
the four-foot falls. Out from the
churning water a silver body would
arise, painted with all the colors of
the spectrum. As though still in the
water, their tails would thrash from
side to side until crashing head on
into the full force of the falls.

A few occasions brought two, or
even three rainbows at once, shoot-
ing from the jacuzzi-looking bub-
bles at the base of the falls. Like
being propelled by some launching
device under the water's surface,
trout were flying several feet in the
air just to be slammed back into the

torment of the white water. Of the
100 or more attempts, we saw less
than 10 fish succeed in making the
high side of the falls, and at 2 p.m.,
it ended as quickly as it began.

It will begin again, possibly later
this spring. As the temperature
climbs, and if you happen to be in
town, stop by the AuSable River and
take a look.

No, it is not the mighty salmon
runs of Alaska and the Northwest
United States. It is not the heavy
flood of steelhead out of Lake
Huron into the mouth of the
AuSable River.

But nature's beauty is measured in
quality, not quantity.

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Pool League
Final Standings

Sawmill II	184
Spikes	170
Frederic Inn	139
Swamp	138
Plaza	133

Sawmill I 126 || Legion | 115 |

7 Ball Run: Patsey P. of Sawmill
II.
5 Ball Runs: Rene S. of Spikes;
Cindy P. of Sawmill II; Anette of
Swamp.

Won all 6 games: Barb M. and
Patsey P.

Most 5 Ball Runs: Dee K. of
Spikes - 7.
Most Won all 6 Games: Patsey P.
and Barb M. of Sawmill II - 7.
Most 6 Ball Runs: Sandy P. of

Sawmill II - 3.

Most 7 Ball Runs: (tie) Patsey P.
of Sawmill II and Dee K. of Spikes.
8 Ball Run: Barb M. of Sawmill II
8 Ball on Break: Rene S. of
Spikes.

1st Rnd. March 16th 2nd Rnd. March 18th Regionals March 23rd Semifinals March 25th & 26th Regionals March 24th 2nd Rnd. March 19th 1st Rnd. March 17th

1. Arizona
ACTIVE COMPUTERS
16. Jackson State
SCHER MOTORS
8. Wisconsin
HART PONTIAC GMC BUICK
9. Fresno State
DR. DENHOLM

1. Arizona
ACTIVE COMPUTERS
8. Wisconsin
HART PONTIAC GMC BUICK
5. Texas
SUNBURST MARINA
12. Indiana State
DR. TOUPIN
4. LSU
CRAWFORD COUNTY ABSTRACT
13. SE Missouri
MILLTOWN AUTO PAINTING

8. Wisconsin
HART PONTIAC GMC BUICK
4. LSU
CRAWFORD COUNTY ABSTRACT
6. Purdue
GRAYLING FORD
11. Dayton
CHARLIE'S COUNTRY CORNER
3. Oklahoma
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14. Winthrop
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7. Louisville
SHOWTIME COLLISION
10. Gonzaga
SYLVESTER'S SPORTS
2. St. John's
HI TECH COMPUTERS
15. Northern Ariz.
DIANE'S CAR WASH

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1. Michigan State
BUCCILLI'S
16. Valparaiso
MCLEAN'S HARDWARE
8. Utah
KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN
9. Saint Louis
FEENEY

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5. Kentucky
GRAYLING COUNTRY CLUB
12. St. Bonaventure
GOODALLS
4. Syracuse
LARRY & JOAN'S
13. Sanford
WENDY'S

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6. UCLA
THERMOGAS
11. Ball State
FLOWERS BY JOSIE
3. Maryland
JOHN HERRICK - NESTERS
14. Iowa
DR. DEAN - DR. AUBREY

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7. Auburn
RIALTO
10. Creighton
SCHER MOTORS
2. Iowa State
SCOTT McNAMARA FORD
15. Central Conn.
ABEL AUTO PARTS

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Final Four

8. Wisconsin
HART PONTIAC
GMC BUICK

5. Florida
FICK & SONS

1. Michigan State
BUCCILLI'S

8. North
Carolina
SUPER 8 MOTEL

Finals
April 3rd

Crawford County
Avalanche
**2000 NCAA
Basketball
Advertiser
Contest**

\$1340.00 in prizes!

**1st Place Win
A
FULL PAGE AD
WITH COLOR**

NCAA bracket to right
containing the
contests and prizes.

EAST

1. Duke
HEADS UP NORTH
16. Lamar
JC PENNEY
8. Kansas
DAVIS JEWELERS
9. DePaul
RIVERLAND
5. Florida
FICK & SONS
12. Butler
DUBOIS LUMBER
4. Illinois
DON NESTER CHEVROLET
13. Pennsylvania
HOLIDAY INN
6. Indiana
BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO
11. Pepperdine
SCOTT McNAMARA FORD
3. Oklahoma State
GRAY ROCK CAFE
14. Hofstra
HART PONTIAC GMC BUICK
7. Oregon
J.J.'s MOTOR MALL
10. Seton Hall
CENTURY 21
2. Temple
UPPER LAKES TIRE
15. Lafayette
COLDWELL BANKER - CORNELL
1. Stanford
DAYS INN
16. S. Carolina St.
J.DAF Co.
8. North Carolina
SUPER 8 MOTEL
9. Missouri
COMFORT CENTER
5. Connecticut
CHARLENE SCHEER - RE/MAX
12. Utah St.
MOORE'S AUTOMOTIVE
4. Tennessee
ROCHETTE'S
13. La-Lafayette
STEVE HARLAND - HART
6. Miami
ARBY'S
11. Arkansas
OLE DAM RD. PARTY STORE
3. Ohio State
MEDICINE SHOPPE
14. Appalachian St.
HART PONTIAC GMC BUICK
7. Tulsa
WENDY'S
10. UNLV
CELLULAR ONE
2. Cincinnati
ENCHANTED FOREST
15. N.C.-Wilmington
B.C. PIZZA

SOUTHEAST

BOWLING LEAGUE

American Men's

Forrest Brothers 59-25
Moore's Automotive 57-27
Helsel Forest Products 44-40
Fenton's Auto Service 44-40
Stake-Out Steak House 43-41
CSI Ind. Systems 32-52
Upper Lakes Tire 29-55
McLeans ACE 28-56
High Game: C. Yost, 245; G. Fenton, 216; Jan Thayer, 212; J. Lee, 212.
High Series: C. Yost, 584; T. Kotrash, 553; G. Fenton, 545.

Friday Mixed Doubles

Sledheads of Frederic 28-20
Charles Country Corner 28-20
Aunt Betty's 26.5-21.5
R. Calkins & Sons 24-24
Fick & Sons 19-29
Moshier Auto Repair 18.5-29.5
High Game Men: J. Campbell, 211; J. Campbell, 210; B. Trudeau, 204.
High Series Men: J. Campbell, 586; M. Campbell, 534; R. Moshier, 531.
High Game Women: D. Calkins, 203; K. Moshier, 187; S. Sumner, 180.
High Series Women: K. Moshier, 508; S. Sumner, 500; D. Medina, 489.

National First

Faustman's Insurance 54-30
Forest Brothers 50-34
Swamp II 48-36
Northern WhiteTail 46-38
Hellebuyck Masonry 41-43
Century 21 34.5-49.5
Grayling Ford 31.5-52.5
Guns & Grubs 31-53
High Game: S. Jones, 230; P. Miller, 225; S. Kaiser, 223.
High Series: J. Dubois, 607; P. Miller, 595; J. Thayer, 586.

Northwood

R. Calkins & Sons 29-15
Rochettes 28-16
Shady Acres Party Store 28-16
American Legion 27-17
Pro Tree 23-21
R & M Masonry 16-28
Darrell's Roofing 13-31
Red Barn 12-32
High Game: T. Raybould, 213; L. Dannenberg, 201; K. Moshier, 193.
High Series: L. Dannenberg, 582; T. Raybould, 568; S. Romain, 507.

Pioneer

Chemical Bank 33-11
Custom Interior 24-20
Aunt Betty's 23-21
Ginger's 23-21
Millikins 20-24
Lady Slippers 19-25
Lucky Strikers 18-26
Avalanche 16-28
High Game: J. Hatfield, 212; K. Moshier, 209; L. Golnick, 205; D. Calkins, 205.
High Series: L. Golnick, 551; K. Moshier, 540; T. Hellebuyck, 534.

Recreation

Tri★County Meats 29-15
Mark 8 25-19
Mickey Perez CPA 23.5-20.5
Glen's Market 23-21
Gray Rock Café 21.5-22.5
Scheer Motors 21-23
Peterson Saw Service 18-26
Cornell 15-29
High Game: S. Sumner, 223; K. Moshier, 206; D. Hannum, 195.
High Series: K. Moshier, 600; S. Sumner, 543; D. Hannum, 499.

Senior

Tees 'N' Such 'R' Us 68-40
Sylvester's Sports 61-47
Friends & Co 60.5-47.5
Tri★County Meats 52.5-55.5
Baynam Wood Prod 49.5-58.5

Buccillis Pizza 49-59
Cornell Realty 47-61
Flowers By Josie 44.5-63.5
High Game Men: K. Harris, 244; J. Rasmussen, 188; D. Germain, 182; A. Smith, 182.
High Series Men: K. Harris, 552; D. Germain, 521; P. Hetrick, 500.
High Game Women: V. Westover, 201; D. Mead, 181; L. Dandy, 178.
High Series Women: V. Westover, 540; L. Hetrick, 465; P. Harris, 455.

Sunday Night Mixed

Wakeley's Auto Parts 39.5-20.5
Sylvester's 39-21
McDonald's of Gaylord 33.5-26.5
Custom Interior 31-29
Waste Management 30-30
McDonald's of Gaylord #2 28-32
R & M Masonry 24-36
Citgo 15-45
High Game Men: J. Elekonich, 216; B. Nielson, 207; S. Miller, 196.
High Series Men: J. Elekonich, 571; R. Moshier, 539; B. Nielson, 522.
High Game Women: J. Hinds, 245; S. Romain, 203; K. Moshier, 189.

GRA YOUTH WRESTLING

Six wrestlers from the Grayling Recreation Authority (GRA) youth wrestling team were selected to compete in the League Finals on Saturday, March 25, in Houghton Lake.

Earning medals in their divisions were: 1st place (League Champion): Mykel Revord; 2nd place: Cody Malone; 3rd place: Cody Josh Partello, Zach Wolcott; 4th place: Jeff Harwood; 5th place: Corey Metzger.

The League Finals tournament concludes the GRA youth wrestling team's season. Coach Adam Anderson noted that the whole team worked hard all season. Tim VanNuck, Jim Harwood, Scott Malone, and Rob Aubry helped out with tournaments this year. Anderson said, and GRA helped by sponsoring the team.

GMS WRESTLING

The Grayling Middle School wrestling team concluded its season on Saturday, March 25, by competing against 23 other teams from northern Michigan in the Northern Michigan State finals held in Houghton Lake.

GMS placed 15 out of 16 team members in the top four of their weight classes.

Individual champions from Grayling were: 1st place: Dusty Partello, Brandon Pratt, Zach Guardado, Adam Malone, Mike Gassman, Zak Wegner; 2nd place: Darryl Babbitt, Greg Warren, Aaron Rosecrans, Brian Borchers, Joe Ferrigan; 3rd place: Jesse Mooneyham, Sam Crowell, James Walker; 4th place: Jesse CdeBaca.

LEGAL ACTION

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE BY SALE

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain Promissory Note and Mortgage made on the date of May 24, 1995 by John L. Wakeley, a single man, as mortgagor, to David A. Cruickshank and Betty M. Cruickshank, husband and wife, as Mortgagee, said Mortgage being recorded June 16, 1995 at Liber 395 Page 408-409, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Crawford County, Michigan, upon which note there is claimed to be due and unpaid at the date of this Notice the sum of Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Eight and 34/100 (\$17,568.34) Dollars, plus accrued interest at the rate of Ten (10.0%) Percent, plus late fees and other allowable costs, including reasonable attorney fees, real property taxes and insurance accruing from November 12, 1999.

Further, no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt or any part of the debt, secured by said mortgage and the power of sale being contained in said mortgage having become operative by reason of said default;

NOW THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of April, 2000 at 10:00 in the forenoon at the main front door of the Crawford County Courthouse, Grayling, Michigan, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court for said County, there will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder at public sale, for the purpose of satisfying the amounts due and unpaid on said promissory note with interest thereon at the rate of Ten (10.0%) Percent, together with legal costs and charges of sale, provided by law and in said promissory note and mortgage. The land and the premises described in said mortgage is located in the State of Michigan, County of Crawford, Township of Grayling, and further described as follows:

The West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 8, Town 26 North, Range 2 West.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of sale. The property may be redeemed by paying the amount bid at the sale, plus interest at the rate of Ten (10.0%) Percent, and any fees, taxes or other unpaid encumbrances on the property from the date of the sale.

The property shall be offered for sale in parcels or in total.

This notice is an attempt to collect a debt. CAREY & JASKOWSKI, P.L.L.C. By: Richard J. Jaskowski (P47123) Attorney for Mortgagee 2373 S. I-75 Business Loop PO Drawer 665 Grayling, MI 49738 (517) 348-5232 -30-6-13-20

NOTICE LOVELLS TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

There is an opening for a part-time outside maintenance person for the Lovells Township Hall and Cemetery Grounds. We also have need of a grave opener. Any person interested in applying for either or both positions, please contact Supervisor Fred Schaibly at the Lovells Township Hall, 8405 Twin Bridge Road, Grayling, MI 49738, 348-9215 or home 348-7065.

Cheryl Hopp
Lovells Township Clerk

-30-6

FILING DEADLINE FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION POSITIONS

A candidate who wishes to seek a position on the Crawford AuSable School District Board must file a nominating petition and an Affidavit of Identity no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2000.

The regular school election will be held on Monday, June 12, 2000. One position on the Board will be filled at the election. The position is a four year term ending June 30, 2004.

Petition and affidavit forms may be obtained at the board office 403 Michigan Avenue, Grayling. Office hours are 8:00 am through 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

-30-6

GRAYLING TOWNSHIP TO HOST TRAFFIC ACCESS MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

A comprehensive seminar discussing the need and methods of developing traffic access management plans will be held in the Grayling Township conference room on Monday, April 24, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tom Doyle, an MDOT planner, and Mark Wyckoff, of the Lansing based Planning and Zoning Center, will be the seminar leaders. Both are experts in the field of managing roads and traffic within a community developmental plan. Wyckoff recently developed and wrote a master plan for the City of Grayling and Grayling Township.

This seminar will be of interest to all persons involved in community planning, including planning commission members, zoning board members, township and city board members, developers, civic planning organizations, business organizations, recreational planners, and industrial, commercial and residential developers.

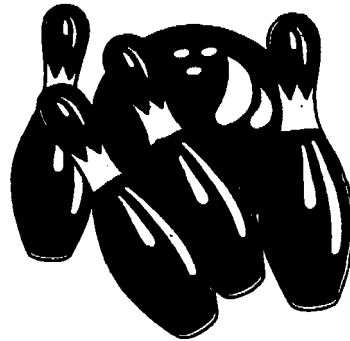
The cost of the seminar is \$5 to cover lunch expenses. Registration can be made by contacting Grayling Township at (517) 348-4381. Checks should be written to Grayling Township, P.O. Box 521, Grayling, MI 49738.

-6-13-20

Homeowners with money worries may qualify for low-interest loans

LOANS: Direct lender lessens its requirements for homeowners who need money now. Have you been turned down for a loan? Do you need more than \$10,000 for any reason? Are you paying more than 10% interest on any other loans or credit cards? If you are a homeowner and answered "yes" to any of these questions, they can tell you over the phone and without obligation if you qualify. High credit card debt? Less-than-perfect credit? Self-employed? Late house payments? Financial problems? Medical bills? IRS liens? It doesn't matter!

If you are a homeowner with sufficient equity, there's an excellent chance you will qualify for a loan—usually within 24 hours. You can find out over the phone—and free of charge—if you qualify. Stone Castle Home Loans is licensed by the MI Licensing and Enforcement. Open 7 days a week. Call 1-800-700-1242, ext. 322



High Series Women: J. Hinds, 581; S. Romain, 542; M. Miller, 514.
Triangle

Gray Rock Café 39-17
McDonald's 33.5-22.5
Moshier Auto 32.5-23.5
Tri★County Meats 29-27
Johnson 25-31
High Game: M. Sumner, 199; J. King, 185; R. Moshier, 185.
High Series: J. King, 499; M. Sumner, 493; T. Everly, 468.

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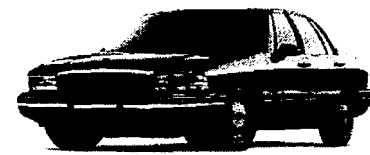
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*Lease for \$199 per month Was \$20,075

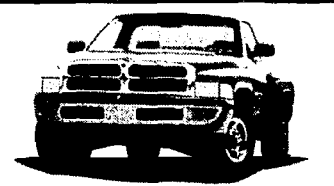
NOW ONLY \$18,968

2000 Dodge Ram 1500 4X4

Reg. cab, 4-spd. auto., 5.9L V-8, SLT pkg., sport pkg., air, AM/FM cass., power windows/locks, cruise, tilt, power heated mirrors, dual airbags, alum. wheels, fog lamps, sliding rear window, 40/20/40 premseat and much more. Stock #96099

*Lease for \$311 per month Was \$25,290

NOW ONLY \$21,959

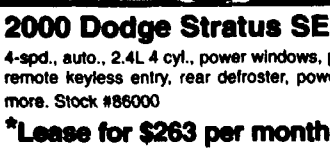


2000 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4 Quad Cab

4-spd. auto., 5.9L V-8, sport pkg., air conditioning, infinity AM/FM cassette, w/CD player, keyless entry, power windows, power locks, rear sliding window, dual air bags, trailer pkg. and much more. Demo Stock #96005

*Lease for \$352 per month Was \$30,805

NOW ONLY \$25,269

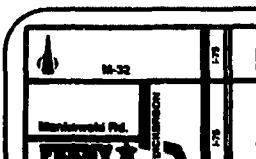


2000 Dodge Stratus SE

4-spd. auto., 2.4L 4 cyl., power windows, power locks, cruise control, tilt wheel, AM/FM cassette, remote keyless entry, rear defroster, power mirrors, dual air bags, folding rear seat and much more. Stock #86000

*Lease for \$263 per month Was \$17,665

NOW ONLY \$15,399



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LEGAL ACTION

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. is a debt collector and we are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by KATHERINE L. MILLS, MARRIED AND HAROLD L. MILLS, MARRIED TO HOME IMPROVEMENT ACCEPTANCE CORP., AN OHIO CORPORATION Mortgagee, dated January 7, 1999, and recorded on January 26, 1999, in Liber 473, on page 92, CRAWFORD County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgagee to MTEGRA CREDIT COMPANY, by an assignment dated January 7, 1999, and recorded on February 17, 1999, in Liber 474, on page 417, CRAWFORD County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of twenty two thousand seven hundred ninety nine and 75/100 Dollars (\$22,799.75), including interest at 11.250% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and approved, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of County Building, Grayling, MI, at 10:00 AM on April 20, 2000.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF FREDERIC CRAWFORD County, Michigan, and are described as:

THE EAST 165 FEET OF THE EAST 330 FEET OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 2, TOWN 27 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241(a) in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: March 23, 2000
MTEGRA CREDIT COMPANY
Assignee of Mortgage
ATTORNEY FOR: Assignee of Mortgage
Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C.
301 South Old Woodward Avenue
State 300
Birmingham, MI 48009-6616

-23-30-6-13

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHTENAW

Case No. 99-11046-CH
Hon. Donald E. Shelton

KERRY A. MacVAY, Trustee of the Kerry A. MacVAY Revocable Trust dated July 20, 1993, and GLENFORD W. HANSON and DOROTHY K. HANSON, as Trustees of the Glenford W. Hanson and Dorothy K. Hanson Trust dated April 2, 1992, Plaintiffs,

CLARENCE WILLIS BAUGHN, and BERNICE E. BAUGHN, Husband and Wife; CORNELIUS ALVIN BAUGHN and PATRICIA BAUGHN, Husband and Wife;

HENRY GILBERTSON, and VIRGINIA LOUISE GILBERTSON, Husband and Wife; ROBERT W. SEEFELD, SR., as Survivor of Sarah Elizabeth Seefeld, Deceased, Husband and Wife; MARY L. BAUGHN, as Survivor of Henry Winston Baughn, Deceased, Wife and Husband; LAWRENCE E. BAUGHN and ELEANOR E. BAUGHN, Husband and Wife; and VARIOUS JOHN and JANI DOES, as Unknown Heirs of Earl and Florence Baughn, Defendants.

Chris L. McKenney (P17473)
Bradley J. McLampy (P34631)
Conlin, McKenney & Philbrick, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
350 South Main Street, Suite 400
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
(734) 761-9000

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

At a session of said Court, held in the City of Ann Arbor, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, on this 22nd day of March, 2000.

PRESENT: Hon. Donald E. Shelton, Circuit Judge

This matter having come before the Court on Plaintiffs' Motion for Substitute Service by Publication, and with the proper showing having been made by Plaintiffs for Order permitting service of process by publication:

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to MCR 2.105(1) and MCR 2.106,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is GRANTED. Alternate substitute service by publication shall be made as provided below.

TO: Clarence Willis Baughn and Bernice E. Baughn, husband and wife, of Grayling County and Livingston County, their heirs presently unknown, and Robert W. Seefeld, Sr. of Gardena County, California and Livingston County, as Survivor of Sarah Elizabeth Seefeld, Deceased, and his heirs presently unknown.

You are being sued by Plaintiffs in the above-identified Court in an action seeking to quiet title to real property located in Dexter Township, Washtenaw County, known as Lot 7 extension parcel more fully described as: a parcel of land in the northwest 1/4, section 1, Dexter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, described as follows: beginning at the southeast corner of Lot 7, Virginia Land, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 5 of Plats, page 48, Washtenaw County Records, thence southerly along the east line of Lot 7 as continued 40'; thence westerly on a line parallel to the southerly line of Lot 7 35.25' thence northerly 40' to the southwest corner of Lot 7; thence easterly along the southerly line of Lot 7 to the point of beginning.

You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in the above Court at the court address of 101 East Huron Street, P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107, telephone number (734) 994-2507, on or before May 12, 2000.

If you fail to so respond, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this case.

The property described in this action is contiguous to the Plat of Virginia Land as recorded in Liber 5 of Plats, page 48, Washtenaw County Records, as dedicated by Earl E. Baughn and Florence E. Baughn, husband and wife, as proprietors on April 3,

1925. All named Defendants are, upon information and belief, the known heirs to Earl and Florence Baughn who may possibly claim an interest on the land described through a chain of title leading back to the original plat proprietors.

Published: March 30, 2000
April 6, 2000
April 13, 2000
Hon. Donald E. Shelton
Circuit Judge
Prepared by: Conlin, McKenney & Philbrick, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
By: Bradley J. McLampy (P34631)

-30-6-1

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Arthur Munsey a single man (original mortgagor) to Mortgage Acceptance Corporation, Mortgagee, dated June 8, 1999, and recorded on June 25, 1999, in Liber 484, on Page 552, CRAWFORD County Records, Michigan, and was assigned by said mortgagee to the Bank One, National Association, as Trustee 1/b/a The First National Bank of Chicago, as Trustee, as assignee by an assignment dated June 8, 1999, which was recorded on December 20, 1999, in Liber 498, on Page 253, CRAWFORD County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE AND 64/100 dollars (\$101,365.64), including interest at 11.300% per annum. Adjustable rate mortgage. Interest rate may change 7/1 and 1/1 of each year.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 A.M. on May 3, 2000.

Said premises are situated in CITY OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

The North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 22, Town 25 North, Range 4 West.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale.

Dated: March 23, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
(248) 593-1305
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200012963
Panthers

-23-30-6-13-20

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

MORTGAGE SALE Default having

been made in the conditions of a certain First Mortgage made by JAMES K. GORDON and JESSIE L. GORDON, husband and wife, whose address is 2285 East Pioneer Road, Roscommon, Michigan 48653 to THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now known as Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, with its District Office being located at 1501 Cass Street, Suite A, Traverse City, Michigan 49684, the Mortgagee, dated November 21, 1984 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford and State of Michigan on November 21, 1984 in Liber 230 of Crawford County Records on Pages 410 through 413, inclusive, such Mortgage being given to secure a loan to such Borrower on said date owing to the Government concerning the real estate hereafter described, and default also having been made in the conditions of a Second Mortgage made by JAMES K. GORDON and JESSIE L. GORDON, husband and wife, to USDA, Farmers Home Administration, the Mortgagee, dated November 21, 1984 and recorded February 20, 1985 in Liber 233 of Crawford County Records on Pages 40 through 43, inclusive, such Mortgage being given to secure the prior loan as above-described and to secure an additional loan to such Borrowers on said date, being an assumption of a prior loan concerning the property described hereafter, and said Borrowers having subsequently entered into certain reamortizing agreements with regard to each debt dated March 24, 1992, and by reason of such default the Mortgagee elects to declare the entire unpaid amount of such Mortgages due and payable forthwith, on which Mortgages there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest for both the First Mortgage and Second Mortgage, the total sum of FIFTY- EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN AND 19/100 (\$58,747.19) DOLLARS (consisting of \$30,709.43 in principal and interest on the First Mortgage and \$28,037.76 in principal and interest on the Second Mortgage), and no proceedings having been instituted to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;

Now Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgages and in pursuance of the statute in such case made and provided, the said Mortgages will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the front lobby of the Crawford County Courthouse located at 200 W. Michigan Avenue in the City of Grayling and County of Crawford, Michigan, that being the place of holding the Circuit Court in and for said County, on Wednesday, April 12, 2000 at 10:00 o'clock, local time, in the forenoon of said day, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount so as aforesaid then due on said Mortgages together with 11.875 percent interest on the First Mortgage and 8.0 percent interest on the Second Mortgage, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises are described in said Mortgage as follows, to-wit: Land and premises situated in the County of Crawford, and State of

Michigan, having a corrected legal description as follows: The West 99 feet of the East 198 feet of the West half of the West half of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter, Section 28, Township 25 North, Range 2 West. (Also commonly known as 2285 East Pioneer Road, Roscommon, Michigan 48653.) The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

For further information with regard to this foreclosure contact Rural Development (formerly Farmers Home Administration), 240 West Wright Street, West Branch, Michigan 48661, telephone (517) 345-5470, facsimile (517) 345-4010.

Dated: February 28, 2000
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, Mortgagee
Robert J. Zitta (P22749)
Attorney for Mortgagee
SCHEUERLE & ZITTA
300 Washington Street
P.O. Box 212
Grand Haven, MI 49417
(616) 842-1470

-9-16-23-30

Legal Notice

Goodale's Mini Storage, 4602 Hanson St. Grayling, MI, 49738, will be selling the following units at auction on May 10, 2000 at 1 p.m.

Unit 54C rented to Jason Teddy contains Moped bike, sporting goods, tools, electronics, bed frame, books, clothing, lamp, camping equipment, tables and kitchen utensils.

Unit 83D rented to Tammy Brow contains miscellaneous furniture, clothing, kitchen utensils, fan, antenna, car seat, and air conditioner.

Unit 100D rented to J.L. Quaint contains a roll of foam, antique desk, row boat, mirrors, and dresser.

Unit 15E rented to Vonda Reynolds contains sporting goods, sports cards, games, holiday decorations, pet supplies, table, dresser, gun rack, vacuum, knick knacks, clothing, dishes, jewelry, picture frames, books.

Unit 20E rented to Ted Rondeau contains bike, television, wood chairs, computer printers, fan, exercise bike, slide projector and screen, tools, suitcases.

Unit 26E rented to Steven Pepsin contains a bed and television.

Unit 32B rented to Michael Weaver contains an air compressor, bed, chairs, sleds, desk, lamps, television, sewing machine, dresser, fax machine, camping and sports equipment.

Unit 72C rented to Michael Weaver contains couch, wood furniture, chairs, sewing cabinet, television, canning jars, sporting goods, clothing, Tonka trucks.

Unit 30E rented to Doug Wulhelm contains couch, golf clubs, television, radio, video games, Christmas tree and decorations, microwave, drop leaf table, bow and arrows.

Unit 67C rented to Joseph Fritz contains, washer and dryer, treadmill, water skis, compound bow, miscellaneous auto body parts, VCR, computer printer.

Unit 70C rented to Robert Schwalm contains Honda ATV, lawn trimmer, steel shelving, cross country skis, high chair, dresser, chairs, television, lights.

Terms: Cash at time of sale and removal within 24 hours or rent the unit. -30-6

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Charles M. Baker a single man (original mortgagor) to Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., dba America's Wholesale Lender, Mortgagee, dated January 27, 1999, and recorded on February 17, 1999 in Liber 474, on Page 440, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT AND 28/100 dollars (\$66,638.28) including interest at 7.250% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on April 19, 2000.

Said premises are situated in city of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel No. 1: Beginning on the South line of Government Lot 4, Section 15, Town 26 North, Range 4 West and Easterly side of Grayling Avenue; thence North 10 Degrees West along Grayling Avenue 100.0 Feet; thence South 89 Degrees 14 Minutes East 200 Feet; thence South 10 Degrees East 100.0 Feet; thence North 89 Degrees 14 Minutes West 200 Feet to point of beginning, and also the South 98.4 Feet of Lot 49 Oak Acres Park, according to the recorded Plat thereof.
Parcel No. 2: Commencing 234.8 Feet West of the Northeast corner of Government Lot 1, Section 22, Town 26 North, Range 4 West; thence West 194.3 Feet on the Easterly side of Grayling Avenue, a street on the Easterly side of Grayling Park, a Subdivision of part of Government Lot 1; thence South 10 Degrees East along said Grayling Avenue, 179.2 Feet; thence South 86 Degrees 56 Minutes East 148.7 Feet, thence North 4 Degrees 32 Minutes East, 178.7 Feet to the point of beginning. Being part of Government Lot 1, Section 22, Town 26 North, Range 2 West.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: March 9, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
248-593-1306
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200011836
Mustangs

-9-16-23-30-6

NOTICE OF BUILDING CODE CHANGE

Local Code Officials from Crawford County Building Dept., City/Township of Grayling Fire Dept., Grayling Township Building Dept. and Frederic Township Building Dept. will present recent code changes from the State of Michigan. Hand out materials on code changes & work shop outline will be available. Code Officials will be on hand for an informal question and answer session at the Grayling Township Meeting Hall Thursday, March 30, 2000 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Code Changes will go into effect April 1, 2000.

All Building Contractors, Sub-Contractors in all trades - Masonry, Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing should plan to attend. -23

REQUEST FOR GENERAL CONTRACTOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

The Otsego County Building Authority and Kirtland Community College are conducting a pre-qualification process to select General Contractors interested in performing construction services for the University Center at Gaylord and the Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TEC). The facility will be located on Livingston Boulevard at the County Complex off Old M27, south of Gaylord High School. The total project will encompass approximately 46,000gsf of single story space configured as classrooms, offices, labs, and support areas. Work will include all trades.

Preference will be given to firms located in the State of Michigan, generally meeting the following requirements:

1. Experience in projects of similar scope and purpose.
2. Ability to provide a comprehensive work plan, construction means and methods that completes the project on schedule and on budget.

To be considered for this project, each submitting General Contractor must provide three (3) copies of a completed and current AIA Document A305 "Contractor's Qualifications Statement 1996 Edition." A similar number of copies of brochures or information conveying qualification information is also acceptable.

Materials may be mailed to the office of the Architect, Straub Pettit Yaste, 1133 East Maple Road, Suite 207, Troy, Michigan 48063. They will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. April 7, 2000.

A formal bidding procedure for the successful pre-qualified contractors will follow later in the spring.

The M-TEC portion of the project is funded through a grant award from the M.E.D.C. and is approximately 29,000gsf. Prevailing State wage rates are applicable. The University Center at Gaylord portion of the project is locally funded. State prevailing wage rates do not apply. The successful contractor will be required to provide performance bonds, labor and material bonds.

CRAWFORD COUNTY HOUSING AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF BOARD POSITION

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners are presently accepting applications for a position on the County Housing and Rehabilitation Commission. Applicants are required to be county residents and request to have a genuine interest in the housing stock for Crawford County and participate in the many decisions which take place at monthly meetings. Applications can be obtained and submitted to County Clerk Sandra Moore no later than April 6, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. at the Crawford County Courthouse 200 W. Michigan Avenue, Grayling, MI 49738.

Sandra Moore - County Clerk/Register of Deeds

-23-30

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES LAND AND MINERAL SERVICES DIVISION

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF DEDICATED STATE-OWNED LAND LAND TRANSACTION CASE NO. 19980101

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Section 2133, Part 21, Subpart 10 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) proposes to sell the following State-owned land or rights in land:

Crawford County, Grayling Township, T26N, R3W. All State-owned land in Sections 20, 29, 32 and 33.

The proposed sale of this land or rights in land is being placed on the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) Agenda for public comment prior to being approved by the MDNR Director. The next meeting of the Natural Resources Commission is scheduled at the following date, time and location:

April 12, 2000
4:30 P.M.
McMorran Auditorium
701 McMorran Blvd.
Port Huron, Michigan

Public appearances before the NRC will begin at 4:30 P.M. and may be scheduled by calling Ms. Theresa Gloden, NRC Secretary, at 517-373-2352.

PLEASE NOTE: This notice is *not* a solicitation for bids. Further information concerning this case is available by contacting Ms. Carol Freed, Land and Mineral Services Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 30448, Lansing MI 48909-7948. Phone (517) 241-2438.

-30

NOTICE LOVELLS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS

As required by the provisions of the OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT PA 267, the Lovells Township Board hereby lists and posts the dates, times, and places of all of its regular meetings during the 2000-2001 fiscal year as follows:

1. All regular board meetings will be held at the Lovells Township Hall.
2. All regular board meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month and will commence promptly at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

April 11, 2000
May 9, 2000
June 13, 2000
July 11, 2000
August 8, 2000
September 12, 2000

October 10, 2000
November 14, 2000
December 12, 2000
January 9, 2001
February 13, 2001
March 13, 2001

LOVELLS TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD and ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS will meet on April 3, 2000 and October 2, 2000.

BOARD OF REVIEW will meet with taxpayers on Tuesday, March 6th and Monday, March 12th, 2001 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

3. All changes and special meetings will be posted eighteen (18) hours in advance.

Cheryl Hopp
Lovells Township Clerk

-23-30

PERSPECTIVE

Long-term care to include 'Happy Days' for residents

The Otsego Memorial Hospital Foundation recently announced that McReynolds Hall, the skilled long-term care facility attached to Otsego Memorial Hospital, has been awarded a Nursing Home Quality Incentive Grant to implement a "Happy Days" improvement program for the residents.

McReynolds Hall, the long-term nursing facility at Otsego Memorial Hospital, received \$7,072 in grant funding. Anita Percy, Nursing Director at McReynolds stated, "I would like to stress the col-

laborative effort between the Michigan Department of Consumer Industry and Services and the Nursing Home Providers in making nursing homes better for the residents.

Our goals are the same in that we are always looking for new and innovative ways to improve the quality of life and satisfaction for the residents and families we serve."

The grant was available to all Michigan nursing homes in good standing with the state regulatory department. "We want to make facilities more of a community instead of just

brick buildings providing care," said Lynn Alexander, director of Michigan Office for Services to the Aging. "If we can't bring all patients home, then we have to make them a home where they are."

Most nursing facilities admit it is challenging to find the financial and manpower resources to make these types of innovative projects successful. The grant is intended to ease some of the financial burden facilities are experiencing as they strive to improve their programs while federal cutbacks continue.

Active Seniors Enjoy Healthy Self-Esteem

A recent medical study has shown that physical activity can help put people on the fast track to happiness.

According to the study, done by three Brigham Young University professors, there is a strong correlation between self-esteem and active lifestyles.

"If you exercise regularly, you are more likely to have a high self-esteem," said Dr. Steven Heiner, a professor in the health sciences department at BYU. "Exercise does something for your psychological well-being."

The Heiner-led study administered the "Tennessee Self-Esteem Inventory" to 277 active and inactive people to find out how age, gender and exercise were correlated to personal, social and physical self-esteem. Active female seniors had the highest self-esteem of all groups studied.

The bolstering of one's self-esteem is one of many benefits derived from exercise. Medical studies have found that various forms of physical activity can improve the intake of oxygen, reduce risk factors, build stronger bones and improve balance.

The good news is that seniors are discovering these body-and-soul enhancers in significant numbers. From 1987 to 1995, the number of com-

mercial health club members ages 65 and older jumped from 140,000 to 1.3 million, according to a survey by the International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association. A survey by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association concluded that those 55 and older exercise at a greater rate than any age group.

"Exercise does something for you socially and mentally as well as physically," said Heiner. "You feel good about your body and good about what you are doing."

At the Huntsman World Senior Games in St. George, Utah, for example, athletes not only enjoy world-class competition and camaraderie, but also sweat their way toward improved self-esteem.

Self-esteem is among the topics that will be covered in seminars and clinics offered to participants at the 12th annual World Senior Games. With more than 5,000 athletes representing all 50 states and more than 30 countries, these seminars give the participants an opportunity to socialize with a wide spectrum of their peers. Other topics of discussion include finances, fitness and even golf swings, along with several medical screenings.

The 22 athletic events, however, are still the main attraction at the games.

This year's activities include: basketball, bowling, bridge, cycling, golf, horseshoes, mountain biking, racquetball, road races, softball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track & field, triathlon, volleyball, square dancing and a half-marathon.

For more information, contact the Huntsman World Senior Games Headquarters, 82 W. 700 S., St. George, UT 84770, or call 1-800-562-1268.

-from North American Precis Syndicate

Senior Center April Volunteer of the Month

Roy Bryant has been selected as the April Volunteer of the Month at the Crawford County Senior Citizens Center in Grayling.

He lives in the Grayling Housing Complex, with his wife, Marge. Since he lives nearby, whenever anyone needs help the call goes up, "Call Roy."

Bryant helps around the Senior Center, and with Commodities, Bingo games. He also helps his neighbors with spring cleaning, regular chores, and gardening.

Friends: A Path To Good Health In Old Age

By Mathy Mezey, RN, EdD, FAAN

Friends do more than keep people company. They carry memories and thus help people remember who they are and what they have done.

Research has shown that as people experience illness and loss, it is easy for them to forget what they once achieved and how hard they worked to build their lives.

By sharing memories, people can renew a sense of accomplishment and their inventory of well-being. Memories can also help cure the depression and loneliness that comes with illness.

Remembering the past and, in the process, reconstructing old ties and friendships, allows people to use the past as a balm for the present.

Friendships, studies show, not only help our mental health, they can help restore our bodies. People who receive emotional support require less pain medication after surgery, recover at quicker rates and follow doctor's orders more faithfully. Emotional support can

help reduce stress and the risk of depression and alcoholism.

In a new book about women in World War II in the Pacific, *We Band Of Angels* (Random House), Dr. Elizabeth Norman talks about the life-long friendships of the heroic Army and Navy nurses who were captured in the Philippines in 1942 by the Japanese. These remarkable women stayed close.

Through the years, many of the nurses kept in touch, sharing their memories in letters and telephone calls and at reunions.

The recollections of the nurses are as remarkable now as they were 58 years ago, and part of what makes them so exceptional is the remembering.

There are many ways—phone calls, notes, E-mail—to reconnect with old friends and to meet new ones. Time not only heals old wounds, it makes it easier to roll out the welcome mat.

To meet new friends, you can join a senior organization or start one; attend high school or college reunions to reminisce about the past;

go online and start a chat room for seniors; or put together a newsletter with a theme, such as what you did during World War II, hold a photo album party, a homemade photogravure of the past.

No matter how old people get, they don't outgrow their need to stay connected to the people who were part of their lives, their history.

For more information on the importance of staying in touch, visit www.nyu.edu/education/nursing/hartford.institute.

- from North American Precis Syndicate

Crawford County Commission on Aging

308 Lawndale Dr., Grayling, MI

APRIL

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Ladies 1:00 - Bridge Club 5:30 - "Hangman"	4 1:00 - Euchre Club 5:30 - "Ellie Mae's" Country Dance	5 <u>Commodities at the Eagles</u> 9:30-10:30 10:00 - Line Dancing Hearing Clinic by Appointment 1:30 Nova & Co. Games 5:30 - Wendy's Bingo	6 Lucky 7" Casino Trip - 10:30 BP's Taken 11 - noon 12:00 - Pam Stewart Speaking on Medical Issues	Spring Forward on 4/1 at Midnight ***** 10:00-1:00 - April 2nd Sunday Brunch Waffles ***** 7 1:00 - Pantry Bingo ***** 8 Foot Clinic by Appointment
10 10:00 - Soaring Eagle Casino Trip 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Ladies 1:00 - Bridge Club 5:30 - "Hangman"	11 1:00 - Euchre Club 5:30 - Trivia	12 10:00 - Line Dancing 12:30 - Stag Cards 1:30 Nova & Co. Games 5:00 - Birthday Dinner & COA White Elephant Auction	13 BP's Taken 11 - noon 5:30 - Cardio	14 1:00 - Pantry Bingo ***** 16 10:00-1:00 - Pancake Brunch
17 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Ladies 1:00 - Bridge Club 5:30 - "Hangman"	18 1:00 - Euchre Club Easter Dinner at 5:00 and Dance with Tina at 5:30	19 <u>Hearing Clinic by Appointment</u> 10:00 - Line Dancing 12:30 - Stag Cards 5:30 - COA Board Meeting	20 Lucky 7" Casino Trip - 10:30 BP's Taken 11 - noon 5:30 - Easter Egg Hunt	21 <u>Good Friday Center Closed</u> HAPPY EASTER
24 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Ladies 1:00 - Bridge Club 5:30 - "Hangman"	25 1:00 - Euchre Club 5:30 - Trivia	26 10:00 - Line Dancing 12:30 - Stag Cards 1:30 - Nova & Co. Games 5:30 - R&R	27 BP's Taken 11 - Noon 5:30 - Cardio	28 1:00 - Pantry Bingo ***** 30 Potluck - 2 p.m. Bring a Dish to Pass & Tableware



Happy Easter



Today's Seniors

DISCOUNTS & SERVICES DIRECTORY



The Medicine Shoppe
 Senior Discounts
 Healthcare Screenings
The Pharmacy that's all about your health.
 500 N. James St. • 348-2000

Senior Discounts for Auto & Home
JANSEN
 AGENCY & ASSOC., INC.
 PO Box 472, 2370 S. I-75 Bus. Loop, Grayling, MI
 348-6711

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 • Fairview Manor - Assisted Living
 • Village Gardens - Private Apartments with Services Available
 Senior apartments with a home-like atmosphere
 Inquiries welcomed, (517) 348-8458
 4800 Old US-27 South, Freeland, Michigan

GRAYLING PHARMACY
 "Your hometown pharmacy"
 FREE IN-TOWN DELIVERY
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Free non-alcoholic beverage
 with the purchase of any lunch
 or dinner. Must present coupon

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To be included in
 the Senior Citizen
 Discount & Service
 Directory call
 348-6811

FEATURES

HOROSCOPES

For The Week Of April 2-8

Aries
March 21-April 20
Deadlines. Deadlines. Deadlines. They haunt you night and day. You can get through this time and get things done on time. Focus on your home life. You cannot allow family problems to get out of control. Depend on the support of a friend.

Taurus
April 21-May 21
Make sure you understand everything thoroughly before you agree to or sign any contract. You can't always depend on someone else's advice. The numbers two and eight will play a very interesting role in your immediate future.

Gemini
May 22-June 21
Take time to meditate, plan and make sound decisions. You don't want to rush into anything without having all the facts first. Take comfort in the colors of the sea. Visiting a body of water will help you take the right steps.

Cancer
June 22-July 22
A defensive attitude is not going to make anything better for you at work. Own up to the problems if they are yours. If not, help find a solution to them. Search your soul for some insight into a family predicament. You can be of help.

Leo
July 23-August 23
You are held in high esteem by friends and colleagues alike. Don't take advantage of the situation though. Think about taking some time away from work to devote to an elderly relative. Someone is very lonely and needs your company.

Virgo
August 24-September 22
Slow down your pace a little. It's time you took a long overdue vacation. You may be surprised how a change of scenery could help you reach unexpected heights. Clarify a financial situation before you get too involved.

Libra
September 23-October 23
Don't be too hard on yourself. After all, things may not be what they seem. Meditation may strengthen your faith and the confidence you have in yourself and those around you. Avoid any confrontation at all costs.

Scorpio
October 24-November 22
Take advantage of your friendliness. It may surprise you how many problems are solved with kindness and just a little understanding. You may find yourself drawn to the clear color of the sky as it works to relax your inner being.

Sagittarius
November 23-December 21
Get back to basics before it is too late. A camping trip would be a wonderful getaway. Problems have been known to dissipate over the flames of a campfire. Rely on your independent spirit to help you work out a successful plan.

Capricorn
December 22-January 20
Intuition will serve you well this week. Listen carefully. Focus on the number seven. It's going to be key to you getting your job done on time. A grouchy neighbor will be working hard toward ruining some of your plans. Smile in his/her face.

Aquarius
January 21-February 18
The numbers two and six will swim in and out of your life. Watch for them. They will work for you in surprising ways. Just the thought of them should bring you some serenity. Be open-minded to some worthy changes.

Pisces
February 19-March 20
Your week will be highlighted by a spiritual awakening. You'll feel renewed. Be realistic about your future goals. Promote others' ideas and causes, and you will find that others will work harder for yours. After all, you are on the same side.

For Entertainment Purposes Only

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Kozy Kamper Peanut Butter S'mores

2 4 oz. cups chocolate pudding
8 Cinnamon graham crackers
60 Miniature marshmallows
Peanut Butter

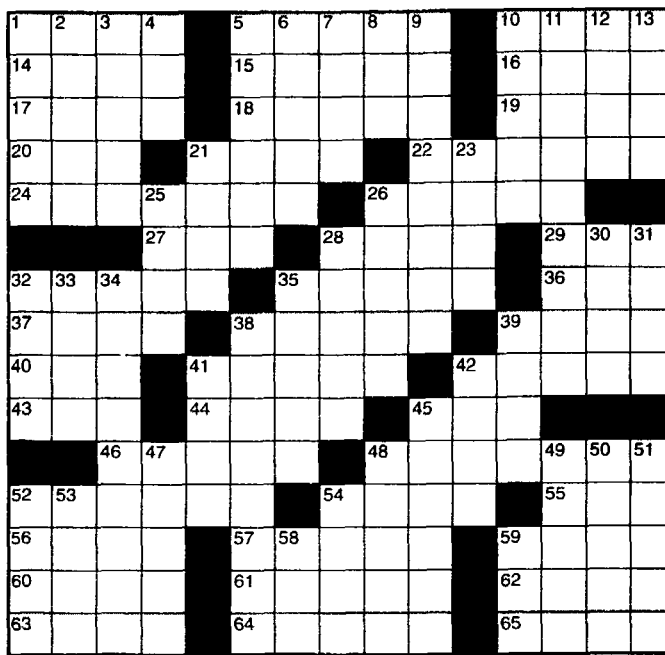
Spread one cracker with a layer of peanut butter followed by

1/2 of a container of chocolate pudding. Meanwhile, arrange marshmallows in three rows of five on the other cracker. Microwave at medium heat for 10 second intervals until they are soft. When ready, press the two crackers together. Soon you'll be asking for some more!



HOME NEEDED - 5 month old female, German shepherd mix. To adopt any of the pets available, stop by or give the Animal Shelter of Crawford County a call at 348-4117.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Inits. on an F-117
5. Was overly fond of
10. Arch
14. The Little Prince
15. Poe family-name
16. Show fear
17. Walked
18. Tableau
19. Sometimes-bearded flower
20. Bled
21. Death row reprieve
22. Chair back ornaments
24. More irate
26. Sacred song
27. Quayle's st.
28. Humdrum one
29. Oola's Alley
32. Natives of Oulu
35. Health club amenity
36. All-terrain vehicle, for short
37. Open-mouthed
38. Cohere
39. "Diving the Wreck" (Adrienne Rich)
40. Ending for king or bore
41. Grace under pressure
42. "Rocket Man" singer John

43. Hindustani title
44. Artist Warhol
45. Tierra Fuego
46. Norwegian
48. Fragrant firs
52. "El de Coca Cola"
54. Word in Bush's infamous promise
55. Sheep's shout
56. Stringed instrument
57. Horse cry
59. Zephyr
60. Utilizer
61. Lock part
62. Inventor's start
63. Roman Polanski film
64. Simon's Plaza
65. Aerie

DOWN

1. Word on bottles of concentrated detergent
2. Plastic wrap brand
3. Armid
4. Provided sustenance
5. Did a cleaning job
6. Tony's cousin?
7. The Harder Fall
8. Dusk, to a poet
9. Thanksgiving menu standard
10. Overflow
11. Dominant

ANSWERS IN CLASSIFIEDS

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago March 31, 1977

The striking Bear Archery workers here are patiently awaiting their day in court and may head south to watch the proceedings which may end the strike. April 14 is the date set by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati to hear oral arguments from both sides in the controversy. The arguments are only expected to take two days at the most and then it will be up to the judge to make his decision, which could take place immediately or at a later time. The local has been on strike through the hardest winter in Michigan's history ever since Bear refused to recognize its employees UAW affiliation. The dispute went to the Cincinnati court after the National Labor Relations Board ruled in favor of the employees.

The Grayling Township sewer controversy has been stalled for the time being as a result of citizens questions. Officials at Camp Grayling have been surprised at the opposition to the use of their sewage system and replied to accusations raised in public hearings. Major Stockhaus, the civil engineer at the base said he could not understand the negative feelings of the township officials since they have not discussed the matter directly with the military. He explained the system and said that to allay fears they would do more extensive testing than usual this spring.

City Manager Jerry Morford said there was a lot of comment at the recent meeting on the proposed sewer system improvements. Currently, much of the rainwater, which should be going through the storm system is going through the sanitary system, overloading it. Morford said the proposed renovations and repairs will cost the average user in town an additional 89¢ per month.

46 Years Ago April 1, 1954

Nancy Collen, Patricia Davis, Ann Marie Stancil, Arnold Stancil and Bonnie Borchers were chosen to participate in the Amateur Show to be held in the high school auditori-

um April 9. They were selected at an audition from 20 contestants.

WWTW, Cadillac announced and expanded program schedule beginning April 11. Programming will start at 4:30 p.m. daily (instead of 5:45 p.m.) except on days when Tiger games will be televised. Most of the baseball telecasts will begin at 2 p.m. with a few starting at 1 p.m. Sign off will remain 11:15 p.m.

Three Grayling youths who were captured in Mancelona on March 16th following a breaking and entering in Kalkaska to which they pleaded guilty were sentenced by Circuit Court Judge Howard J. Campbell at a special session of the court held in Cadillac last week. Ronald J. Markby and Jack Kennedy, each 19, were given 2 - 15 year sentences. They were already on probation for a similar offense. James Budd, 24, received a sentence of 13 months to 15 years.

Last Wednesday morning at about 8:45 a.m. cars driven by Albert Madill, of Frederic, and Rev. John Enselmann of Grayling, (who was on his way to Gaylord for morning broadcast) collided at County Road 612 and US-27. Considerable damage was done to both cars. Hospitalized were Johannes Rasmussen, (a passenger in Rev. Enselmann's car) who received some fractured ribs and chest injuries, and Diane Madill (a passenger in her dad's new car) with head injuries.

One of man's largest structures, a five-mile bridge, will soon start taking form over an historic American waterway, the Straits of Mackinac.

69 Years Ago April 2, 1931

The Lumberjacks had a great trip to East Liverpool. It really was a "booster" trip to advertise Grayling and its many interesting places. There were interviewed by the Chamber of Commerce there and treated royally. Station WJAS Pittsburgh, broadcast their visit and primary subjects were the Lumberjacks Grayling the Capital City of Winter Sports and Summer Vacations. In basketball they won their first game against the Tichenor

Cleaners, Akron, Ohio but lost to Girard College. Those making the trip were Coach LaVere Cushman, Manager Harold MacNeven, Charlie Wylie, Francis Brady, Rudy Harrison, Paul Hendrickson, Elmer Neal, Henry LaGrow, Wesley LaGrow and Russell Robertson.

Waldemar Jensen and his crew of workmen have just finished the job of decorating the interior of the Rialto Theatre. We doubt if there is a prettier theatre anywhere with its new decorations.

Neither absent nor tardy in the first grade for the past month were Albert Bentley, Aileen Brown, Donald Borchers, Louise Dupree, June Doroh, Ruth Ann Kernosky, Bobby Nelson and Jerome Wilcox.

The house occupied by Dan Kolka on Ogemaw had its roof damaged by fire Friday.

Miss Velma Barger won the first prize for \$20 for the best recipe for spaghetti. Contest was put on by the Detroit Times.

Another snowstorm starting Friday reminded us that Old Man Winter was still on the job.

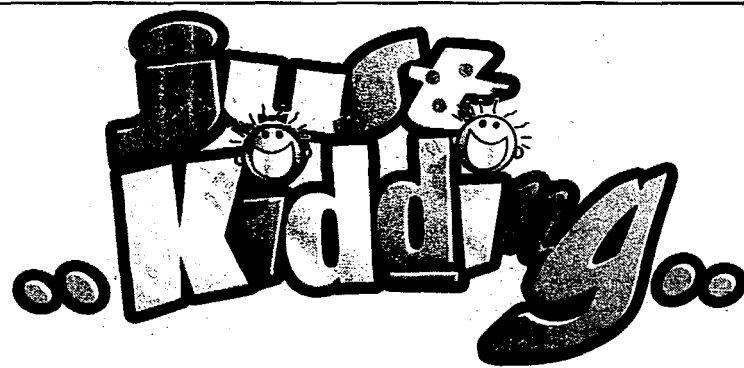
92 Years Ago April 2, 1908

The "Best Band" gave a grand musical concert at Simpson's store Monday evening in honor of its formal opening. The streets were crowded with hundreds of people and there were cigars for the men and flowers for the ladies and candy galore. If Simpson receives the prosperity he was wished he will be satisfied.

J.C. Burton reports the receipt from the Paris Fish Hatchery of 42,000 trout for the AuSable.

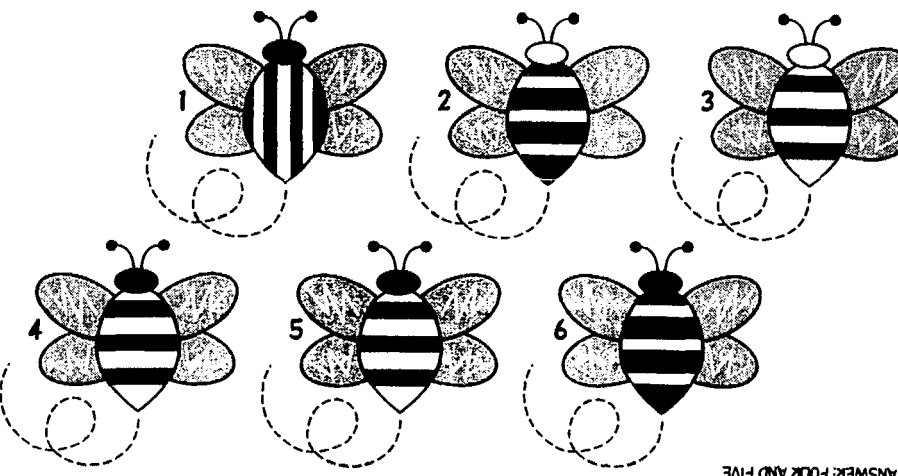
The Company's Camp at Johannesburg broke up last week with only men left to load cedar and look after the camp. Jerry Lovely's and John Rasmussen's camps have both closed down but P. Moshier expects to lumber all summer if the snow holds out. He has an extra force on this week.

C. C. Westcott withdrew from the ticket on which he was nominated by "horseplay" last Friday and George Leonard substituted by the committee.



FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



ANSWER: FOUR AND FIVE



WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling



Date	H	L	Precip.
3/21	49	40	0.005"
3/22	55	37	
3/23	64	33	
3/24	65	39	0.03"
3/25	55	32	
3/26	57	32	
3/27	48	28	0.15"

Extended Forecast courtesy of the U.S. Excite Weather: Wednesday - refreshingly cool and partly cloudy with a high in the upper 40s. Thursday - cool with scattered clouds, a low near 30 and a high near 50. Friday - cool and partly cloudy, a low in the mid 30s and a high in the low 50s. Saturday - mostly cloudy with scattered showers, a low near 40 and a high in the upper 50s.

Section C ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Crawford County Avalanche

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$5.75 per column inch
 Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday
 Classifieds by the word rate - \$4.00 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/
 Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

1. Real Estate

UPPER PENINSULA near Brevort two acre wooded building site. Excellent location near state and federal recreational area. 419-642-5501 (-30-6/1)

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN PROPERTIES www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99tf/1)

I BUY HOUSE and land contracts. Pay cash. Quick closings. Are you facing foreclosure? Divorce? Leaving the area? Don't ruin your credit. Call Peninsula Funding 1-800-641-1717. (3/11/99tf/1)

LISTING YOUR Waterfront, commercial or investment properties and would desire personal attention and exposure given to your goals, not just a number. Call J. Lee Hamrick, Owner-Broker Hamrick Real Estate Co., P.C. Phone or Fax 517-348-5433. (3/30/00tf/1)

FOR SALE BY OWNER Three year old, three bedroom, two bath brick home. Sitting on two large wooded lots, just two miles west of Roscommon. Hot water heat, concrete driveway, 24 x 28 attached garage. AuSable River access, kitchen appliances included. \$108,000 517-275-8773 (-16-23-30/1)

BUILDING LOT \$7,700 150 x 200 Manistee River Rd. 231-258-7820 (-23/30/1)

1. Real Estate

TWO-THREE BEDROOM 1,500 square foot, family room-one car garage. \$57,000 By appointment. 517-348-7355 (12/9/99tf/1)

AUSABLE COUNTRY ACRES Building sites starting at \$7,000. Spec log home with loft. Well, septic, electric service. \$49,000 Near river and state land. 517-348-7355 (12/9/99tf/1)

HOUGHTON LAKE - WEST SHORE Three bedroom, two full bath. Ranch home, only eight years old. Beautiful lake view, 1 1/2 car attached garage, paved drive. \$96,900 517-422-2934 (-30/1)

THREE BEDROOM 1 1/2 BATH 1250 sq. ft. home built in 1999. Two car attached, two plus acres. 517-348-4840 (-9-16-23-30/1)

GOLF COURSE BUILDING LOTS for sale. Lifetime golf and ski memberships included. All lots are one to two acres. \$29,000 to \$49,000. Skyline Ski and Country Club. 517-275-5445 (-30-6-13/1)

2. For Rent

NEW THREE BEDROOM, two bath with garage sitting on 2 1/2 acres. \$525 month plus utilities and security deposit. Available April 1st. 517-821-5995 (-30-6/2)

2. For Rent

MAKE ARBOR COURT APARTMENTS your new home. Large two bedroom apartments. Maximum income level of \$18,900 for two person household. Rent based on 30% of gross monthly income. Barrier free unit available. Call Sande 517-366-4475 or Mary Ann 888-576-6468 for more information. Equal Housing Opportunity. (9/16/99tf/2)

CABIN FOR RENT Sleeps four, call 517-348-8350. (10/14/99tf/2)

TWO BEDROOM RENTAL AVAILABLE near Lake Margrethe \$425 month plus \$425 security deposit. Call 517-348-5838. (3/30/00tf/2)

NEW OFFICE OR BUSINESS space for rent. Busy highway, one mile west of I-75, exit 244. 517-821-5995 (3-17-2-16-30-13-27/2)

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE at Grayling Pines Apartments in Grayling. Two bedroom, spacious, with playground and laundry facilities on site. Rent based on 30% of income and includes heat, water and garbage removal. Very low to moderate income households welcome. 517-344-0020 or stop by our office on Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Equal Housing Opportunity. Barrier Free Waiting List available. TDD (800) 649-3777 (-23-30/2)

2. For Rent

ONE BEDROOM HOUSE in town. \$300 per month, \$325 security deposit plus utilities, lease, immediate occupancy. 517-348-4443 (-30-6/2)

COZY CABINS in wooded setting at Lost Acres. Year round living at affordable prices with showers and toilets. Cabin One now ready. \$250 Small, but affordable. Cabin Two is larger and features a bedroom, living room and kitchen/dining and is \$460 per month features new carpet and paint. All rents include appliances, heat and electric. Security deposit is \$150. No pets allowed. Located at Lost Acres two miles south of Waters at 11010 N. Old U.S. 27. Call Leo toll free at 877-227-6976 weekdays or weekends at 231-535-2169 or 231-499-5815. (-30-6-13-20/2)

TWO BEDROOM UPSTAIRS APARTMENT \$375 monthly plus utilities. \$350 security deposit. For appointment call 517-348-7432 or 517-348-3904. (-30-6/2)

TWO BEDROOM DUPLEX with attached garage located on Heather Lane off North Down River Rd. One unit will be available April 10th, another on May 8th. Call Northwoods Rentals for an application. 517-275-5225 Rent is \$450 per month plus deposit. (-30/2)

2. For Rent

BUSINESS SPACE FOR LEASE Immediate occupancy. 941-235-1277 (3/9/00tf/2)

2. For Rent

CHALET ON TEN ACRES \$650 monthly, references. 517-348-8216 (3/23/00tf/2)

1. Real Estate

REAL ESTATE FORECLOSURE SALE

Crawford County Courthouse
Wednesday, April 12, 2000 at 10 a.m.

Address: 2285 E. Pioneer Rd. • Roscommon, MI 48653

Minimum Bid: \$22,244 • 3 bedrooms, 1 bath

Redemption Period: six (6) months

Offer must be in form of certified check or money order the day of the sale.
 Equal Housing Opportunity

For information contact Rural Development at:

USDA Rural Development

240 W. Wright St.

West Branch, MI 48661

(517) 345-5470 • Fax: (517) 345-4010



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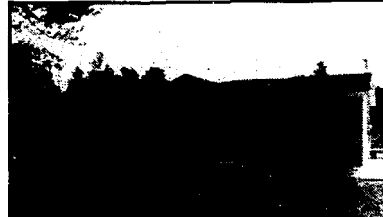
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CRAIG HINKLE
 Broker/Owner
 State Licensed Appraiser



LARGE HOME ON DOUBLE CORNER LOT IN THE CITY OF GRAYLING Large 1 1/2 story brick home with an abundance of mature shade trees. 1,783 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, large living room with fireplace, four zone hotwater baseboard heat. Full partially finished basement. Fenced in backyard, 5x12 covered porch. Excellent location close to hospital, schools and downtown. \$68,000 CH-1116



VERY WELL MAINTAINED DUTCH MODULAR. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on 2.37 acres. Complete with refrigerator, stove and dishwasher. Both front and rear decks for easy access. Cement patio for leisure and convenience. Peaked ceilings throughout. Detached 2 car garage, plus extra 8x12 storage shed. Reduced \$67,500 CS-988



EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY NEAR LAKE MARGRETHE Spacious family home priced below appraised value. One and one-half story saltbox. 23 foot vaulted ceiling in kitchen/dining/living room. Ceramic tile floors. Family room with bay window and wood-stove. Sunroom 9.5x15 with tiled floors and hot tub hookup. Two skylights. 5x15 replacement windows. 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, 1,419 sq. ft., attached 1 1/2 car garage. Home in need of some TLC. Immediate occupancy. \$49,900 CH-1118



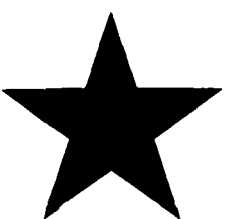
THE PERFECT RENTAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY. This three unit triplex is located on the main branch of the famous AuSable River, in the heart of Grayling. Conveniently centered near schools, shopping and medical facilities, it has the ideal location. The three units are approximately equal in size. 580 square feet. Each has one bedroom, a spacious bathroom, a dining room, kitchen combination and a large living room. \$118,000 CS-1082



Above the Crowd!

* Based on publicly available information and on an audit by Arthur Andersen of 1997 RE/MAX residential real estate transaction sides in North America only.

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BEAUTIFUL NEW MODERN HOME IN THE CITY! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths 1120 sq. ft., cedar cathedral ceilings in living room, dining and kitchen area. Kitchen has oak cabinets, island bar and sink. Oak floors throughout, oak trim and solid oak doors. Custom fitted venetian blinds, paved drive and walkways. Front door has side light window, slate at entry doors, pretreated wood porches and cement decks. Maintenance free vinyl siding and large carriage insulated windows. Many more features. \$125,000 CS-983



NICE LITTLE COTTAGE This 702 sq. ft., one bedroom home/cottage is ideal for starters or those retired. New carpet and remodeled bath. It is located close to state land and Kneff Lake. Cottage is vacant and offers immediate occupancy. \$23,900 CH-1117



NICE HOME IN THE CITY! New vinyl siding & roof. 3 bedroom, 1 bath offers 1,300 sq. ft. with natural gas heat, new gas log fireplace in family room. Formal dining room, fresh paint throughout. Partial basement, 1 1/2 car attached garage. Fenced in yard, walkout patio door onto large deck with bench seating. Immediate occupancy. Close to hospital, schools and shopping. Reduced \$66,500 CS-837



498' FRONTAGE - 2.3 ACRES ON LOWER BIG CREEK Secluded setting at end of a private drive. Located 1/4 mile upstream of AuSable River Mainstream. Property can be divided; it currently has two tax I.D. numbers. Adjoins 80 acres private property downstream. Large yard sloping to waters edge. 960 sq. ft., 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, walk-in closet in master bedroom, fireplace has zero clearance, sliding glass door onto deck and a metal frame gazebo. Mobile home pad with separate well and septic. \$114,900 CH-1119

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AFFORDABLE MOBILE ON 5 ACRES! This mobile home is ready to move into! Great location for hunting and close to snowmobile trails. \$27,500 MLS# 9-3450



BEAUTIFUL LARGE HOME. Great quiet neighborhood, landscaped and close to town. Home offers built-in appliances, built-in cupboards and shelves, heated tile floor in sunroom. Spacious family room located in the finished basement. \$128,000 MLS # 9-4053



NEAT AND CLEAN MOBILE HOME. Very clean 3 bedroom mobile home on large lot. Fenced yard with 2 sheds for storage. New built over roof, new carpet in living room, new electric hookup in 1999. Won't last! \$26,000 MLS# 776



10 YEAR YOUNG HOME! Attractive 3 bedroom home with full basement situated on nicely wooded parcel. \$64,500 MLS # 9-3509



Cozy 2 bedroom home located less than 2 miles from the "fly only" area of the AuSable River. Also near Kneff Lake and snowmobile trails! \$32,900 MLS# 257



WELL-ESTABLISHED BUMPSHOP. Bumpshop, includes inventory of paint and equipment. Excellent location near major highway between Grayling and Kalkaska on 1.19 acres. Zoned C-1. Call office for more information. \$128,000 MLS# 345



CONTEMPORARY HOME ON FOX RUN. Beautiful home on Fox Run Golf Course to include lifetime membership. Extras include cart garage, electronic sprinkler system, wood or gas fireplace, deck and much more. \$199,900 MLS# 9-4190



NEWER ENERGY EFFICIENT RANCH! Hardwood flooring in the kitchen/dining hallway, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Large country kitchen with extensive oak cabinets, ceramic tile in bathrooms, track lighting, new 12x32 hardwoods. Vinyl siding, thermal vinyl clad windows, baseboard heat and steel insulated doors. \$78,900 ML# 9-4287



HOME WITH ACREAGE. This home sits on 10 acres in the front and back and near numerous snowmobile trails. Home has 6 bedrooms, 2 baths, pole barn and more. \$117,900 ML# 7-2392

SALES TEAM



Laurie Jamison
 General Manager
 Broker



Bonnie S. Odell ABR
 Office Manager
 Associate Broker



Rhonda Smith
 Associate Realtor



Gurly LaMotte
 Associate Broker



Caron Slane
 Associate Realtor



Kevin Jamison ABR
 Associate Broker
 Valuation Specialist



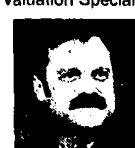
Kim McClain
 Associate Broker



Diann S. Murphy
 Associate Realtor



Terry L. Vandecar
 Associate Realtor



Dorey LaMotte
 Associate Realtor



Jayson & Michelle Weiser
 Associate Realtors



Fred Shipley
 Associate Realtor

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2. For Rent

FOR RENT One bedroom apartment, second story, city limits, single, non-smoking, employed adult only, no pets. 517-348-6071 (1/6/00/1/2)

1. Real Estate



Connie Winans
Located on 5 acres is this beautiful 3 bedroom home featuring 2 1/2 baths, full basement, large 24x8 garage. Includes with sale is satellite dish antenna and new back deck. 2 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths and more! #4520 \$78,000. Ask for Connie Winans.

RIVERVIEW SENIOR APARTMENTS 306 Knight Street in Grayling is updating the waiting list for one and two bedroom units. Persons must be 62 years or older, or handicapped and/or disabled of any age. Rent based on income with subsidy available. Barrier free apartment in building. Applications on site or call Linda at 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin, Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-16-23-30-6/2)

ARE YOU OVER 62 or handicapped or disabled? If so, we have cozy, comfy apartments available at Whispering Pines in Grayling. One and two bedrooms that include heat, water, garbage removal and maintenance with rent. Rent based on 30% of income. Laundry facilities on site. Very low to moderate income households welcome. 517-344-0020 or stop by for a visit on Tuesday or Thursday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Equal Housing Opportunity. Barrier Free Waiting List available. TDD 800-649-3777 (-23-30/2)

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT Two bedroom, one mile from town. \$325 per month. \$150 deposit. Natural gas heat and cooking, plus utilities. Call anytime. 517-348-4131 (-30/2)

2. For Rent

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED Apartments for rent, furnished or unfurnished, one or two bedroom, heat and water paid. \$499 and up. Rooms for rent, includes microwave, refrigerator, kitchenette, HBO and Cinemas, free continental breakfast. Weekly specials \$149 plus tax. Call AuSable Motel 517-348-8900 (-16-30/2)

RIVER FOREST FAMILY APARTMENTS at the corner of Hannah and Ballenger in Roscommon has one and two bedroom units available. Rent based on income with limited subsidy. Applications at office on site or call 517-275-4061 or 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin Street, Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-16-23-30-6/2)

3. Employment

ALPINE EYE CARE has an opening for a full-time Ophthalmic Assistant to travel between our Gaylord and Grayling offices. Must be able to work in a fast paced practice and handle multiple tasks. Medical experience helpful but not necessary. Excellent benefit package including 401K. Send resume and references to P.O. Box 1665, Gaylord, MI 49734. (-16-23-30/3)

PLEASE APPLY IN PERSON at Gates AuSable Lodge, 471 Stephan Bridge Rd. Kitchen and housekeeping positions available. (-30-6/3)

3. Employment

SEASONAL BUSINESS LOOKING for part time help. Outdoor, light construction, no experience necessary. Ideal for semi-retired person or college student. 517-821-5995 (-30-6/3)

CITIZENS BANK in Grayling is seeking part-time tellers (customer service representatives). Qualified candidates will have previous customer service experience, teller or cash handling experience, and sales experience or sales aptitude. Work schedule varies approximately 25 hours per week. Qualified candidates should submit a resume to: Citizens Bank, Attention Sherrie Loucks, P.O. Box 58, 201 State St., Charlevoix, MI 49720. Or fax your resume to 231-547-6823. Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F/D/V. (-30/3)

OPERATING ROOM TECHNICIAN Mercy Hospital in Grayling is seeking a person to assume duties as a Full-Time OR Tech. Qualified candidate must have graduated from a qualified school for OR tech or have the equivalent on-the-job training. Three-five years experience as an OR Tech is preferred. We offer competitive wages and fringe benefit package. Wage Range is \$10.28 to \$14.50. Interested persons please apply to Human Resources, Mercy Hospital, Grayling, 1100 Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone 517-348-0528, Fax 517-348-0485. (-30/3)

3. Employment

HILLTOP MANOR Health Care Center has an opening for a part-time afternoon dietary aide. This position's duties include but are not limited to serving food, dishwashing, and general kitchen cleaning. If you are interested in joining our winning team, please come and fill out an application at 1290 East Michigan Highway, Roscommon, MI 48653. (-30-6/3)

MEDICAL OFFICE NURSE or CMA. We are seeking a person to fill a full time position as a Medical Office Nurse or Certified Medical Assistant in our Grayling location. Graduate of an accredited LPN/RN program and current Michigan licensure RN preferred. LPN must have NAPNES certification. Medical assistant must obtain certification within designated time frames. Prefer medical office experience. Interested persons please contact: Mercy Hospital, Grayling, 110 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI. 49738. Phone # 517-348-0528. Fax # 517-348-0485. (-30/3)

HOMEWORKERS NEEDED \$635 weekly processing mail. Easy! No experience needed. Call 1-800-440-1570, ext. 5055 24 hours. (-16-23-30-6/3)

HOSPICE - IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for growing program. Full time, part time and/or Contingent RN's and LPN's. Join our licensed Hospice Team. One or more years of professional nursing experience required. Med/Surg or ICU skills desirable. Hospice or Homecare experience preferred. Must have well-developed assessment skills and enjoy working independently. On-call responsibilities. Excellent wages and mileage reimbursement. To apply, please complete an application at 125 Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738 or fax application/resume to Diane Tomaski: 517-348-3224 (fax) Phone: 1-800-424-1457/517-348-4383 Mercy Amicare Homecare & Hospice is committed to achieving diversity in the workplace and is an equal opportunity employer. (-30/3)

3. Employment

DARE TO BE THIN Call for information regarding the most incredible weight loss program in America! Toll free 877-727-0340. (-30-6-13/3)

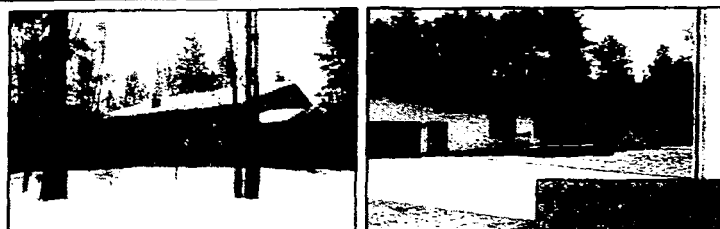
MANAGEMENT POSITION Requires leadership abilities, scheduling and routing, data entry, and phone skills. Position requires long hours during peak summer periods. CDI license preferred, but not necessary and basic knowledge of trucks required. Salary commensurate with ability and experience. Benefits include health insurance and 401K retirement plan. Call 517-275-7053 and/or send resume: Attention: Office Manager, P.O. Box 1054, Grayling, MI 49738 (-30-6/3)

SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAM Coordinator/Counselor needed at River House Shelter & Domestic Crisis Services for a full-time position. Coordinates the Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy Program. Performs a variety of duties to treat the emotional, psychological, and physical needs of sexual assault victims, including legal advocacy, crisis counseling, and support group facilitation. Requires an MSW, or MA in counseling or human services with experience in the area of sexual abuse; organizational skills; ability to work well with other staff and the public. Salary, \$25,000 - \$29,000 annually, depending on skills and experience, plus benefits. Qualified candidates may apply to Mercy Hospital Human Resources, 1100 Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. 517-348-0528 (-30/3)

COOK NEEDED approximately 20 hrs. per week. Must be dependable, flexible and willing to work weekends. For interview call 517-348-3904. (-30-6/3)

WANTED: ACCOUNTING CLERK for a Grayling Credit Union: computer knowledge including word processing and spreadsheets, good communication skills and reconciliation skills required, accounting background and knowledge of CUP data processing system a plus. Fax resume to 517-348-1838 Attn: Accounting. (-30-6/3)

Century 21 River Country Real Estate
See all of our listings at:
www.century21grayling.com



Beautiful view from elevated site with deeded access to Devereaux Lake. Home is approximately 125 feet from the water. All on 15 acres of land. #4565 \$147,000 Ask for John Kuszak!

Very nice and well maintained ranch home just outside of Sherwood Forest. Located on county maintained road and close to town, this 3 bedroom/2 bath home features a wonderful large kitchen. Separate breakfast nook area, plus dining area. Vaulted ceilings, skylites and more. #4575 \$86,000 Ask for Debbie Bondar!



Experience the atmosphere of living near Lake Margrethe and also enjoy the open feeling of a "spacious wooded lot!" This nice 4 bedroom home is situated on 1 1/2 acres just down the street from Lake Margrethe. There is plenty of room for outdoor activities, a garden and room to grow. A truly unique opportunity for raising a family or acquiring that "vacational" retreat or retirement home. #4553 \$74,500 Ask for Randall Hartley!



Beautifully situated on 2.51 acres in Beaver Creek Twn. This home is located just a short walk from Skyline Ski & Country Club. It offers a peaceful setting, full insulation and drywalled basement, new mud room, new carpet, freshly painted and much more. #4561 \$88,900 Ask for Bob Pollack!



Very well maintained, neat and clean two bedroom home within walking distance of the AuSable River, schools, shopping and post office. The perfect home for a young couple starting out or the retirement couple wanting to downsize. #4515 \$44,500 Ask for Scott Hanson!



Immediate occupancy at closing. Updated and well maintained 4 bedroom home located in the City of Grayling. The original ornate wood working on the open staircase is absolutely stunning. Other nice features include: large covered front porch leading into the foyer, new vinyl windows and siding, formal dining room, large storage building and enclosed back porch. #4536 \$76,500 Ask for Connie Winans!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Workforce Development Board and Northeast Michigan Consortium are requesting proposals to operate Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Adult, Dislocated Worker and Welfare Reform Programs in the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego and Presque Isle.

Program dollars of approximately \$638,526 are available to be expended on Adult Programs, and \$437,222 is available for Dislocated Worker Programs. Available program dollars for Welfare Reform Programs are approximately \$740,317.

A Bidder's Conference will be held on Monday April 3, 2000, at 1:30 p.m. in the Onaway Michigan Works! Service Center. Request for Proposal packages will be available at that time.

Requests for proposals should be made to Terry L. Basel, Michigan Works! Northeast Consortium, P.O. Box 711, Onaway, Michigan 49765. Disk copies are available upon request. The proposal deadline for submission is Friday, May 5, 2000, at 12:00 p.m. at the Northeast Michigan Consortium, Onaway, Michigan. Late proposals will not be considered.

An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services will be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Michigan Relay Center 1-800-649-3777 (voice and TDD).

Full-time Position MSW,CSW Medical Social Worker/Bereavement Counselor

Hospice of Michigan Northern Region is seeking a medical social worker/bereavement counselor for the main office in Gaylord. This position includes active social work and bereavement care for hospice families. Hospice of Michigan offers a competitive wage and retirement plan for full-time employees. Applicant must be an MSW, CSW with hospice or home care experience preferred. Candidate must have graduated from an accredited college of social work. Hospice of Michigan is the leader in care for patients living with a terminal illness. We offer a flexible environment with a family focus. We guarantee this will be the best place you have ever worked. For immediate consideration, please call or send resume to:

Full-time H.H.A

Hospice of Michigan Northern Region has an opening for a full-time HHA at the main office in Gaylord. If you are looking for personal satisfaction and a rewarding position helping terminally ill patients in their homes, this job is for you. Applicant should have 2 years hospice or home care experience. Hospice of Michigan offers a competitive wage and excellent benefit package including health, dental, optical, retirement plan, and many other benefits. Hospice of Michigan is the leader in care for patients living with a terminal illness. We truly feel this will be the best place that you will ever work! To apply call for an application or submit resume to:

HOSPICE of michigan

Hospice of Michigan
Attn: Clinical Coordinator
Cindy Debnjak, RN
810 S. Otsego
Suite 111
Gaylord, MI 49735
(517) 732-2151
FAX: (517) 731-2897

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North Central Community Mental Health

Is seeking individuals to provide care for adults with developmental disabilities in a group home in Grayling. Rewarding work environment with staffing ratios of 1:3 or less. Starting wage is \$7.11/hr., increase to \$7.78/hr. after paid training. Potential for promotion to full-time with excellent fringe benefit package. Applicants must have proof of high school diploma/equivalent, reliable transportation and a working home telephone. Must have acceptable driving and criminal record checks. To apply call Beth at (517) 348-2461 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EOE -23-30/3

PROJECT/DESIGN ENGINEER

A worldwide supplier of industrial material handling in both conveying and machinery has an immediate need for an experienced Project/Design Engineer. Requirements/Experience: Bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering discipline preferred. Five to ten years of experience in the foundry industry and/or material handling systems. This high visibility position requires strong interpersonal and negotiating skills. Project related travel required. Excellent compensation package includes salary, 401K and full benefits.

If you are interested in joining a major, fast paced, material handling and machinery design, fabrication and installation corporation, that has been expanding while other suppliers are shrinking, and you wish to live in the beautiful four seasons area of Nawaygo/Fremont, Michigan, please send a resume outlining your experience and salary expectations in confidence to: SandMold Systems, Inc. - 313 W. State Road - Nawaygo, MI 49337 - Attn: Human Resource Manager. We are an equal opportunity employer.

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3. Employment

MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER Mercy Hospital's new expanded Primary Care Practice Clinic in the Houghton Lake area is seeking an Office Manager. This person is responsible for the organization and coordination of the clerical and clinical components of this active clinic. The successful candidate will have three to five years management level experience in a health care setting; clinical background is a plus. One to two years post high school education is required; Bachelors Degree in Business Administration is preferred. We are part of the Mercy Health Care System and through our partnership with Munson Health System are also part of a regional health care delivery system. We offer competitive wages and excellent fringe benefits. Interested persons please contact Human Resources at: Mercy Hospital, Grayling, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738 Phone # 517-348-0528; Fax # 517-348-0485. E-mail feldmaa@mercy-health.com (-30/3)

AUTO TECHNICIAN GM heavy engine and transmission auto technician needed. Must be state certified and have own tools. Factory training a plus but not necessary. Excellent pay and fringe benefits. Friendly, professional working environment. Plenty of work available. Sign-on bonus to right applicant. Call Dave Petrie, Service Manager, at Scheer Motors in Grayling, Michigan. 517-348-5451 for interview appointment. (3/2/00t/f/3)

OWN A COMPUTER Put it to work. Earn \$350-\$850/wk. PT/FT 1-800-806-2853 www.pc-biz.net (-30-6-13-20/3)

FULL-TIME OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE for insurance company. Computer knowledge required. Send resume to Office Manager, P.O. Box 544, Grayling, MI 49738. (-30/3)

4. Services Offered

CHARGE by the job, not by the hour. Yard work, raking, yard cleanup, cutting wood, stacking wood, etc. 517-348-5081 (-16-23-30/4)

LICENSED CHILD CARE PROVIDER has full and part-time openings from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Food program, FIA approved. Located in the city of Grayling. Call Kate at 517-344-1048. (3/30/00t/f/4)

4. Services Offered

WANNA LOSE WEIGHT Try Glycolan from Mannatech. Call Dr. Toupin for more info 517-348-4560. (-16-23-30/4)

GET THE ENERGY you need for Spring with a Chiropractic Adjustment. Call Dr. Toupin for an appointment 517-348-4560. (-16-23-30/4)

HORSE BOARDING Excellent trail riding arena - tack room. Call 517-348-7138. (-23-30/4)

CUSTOM SIGNS Truck trailer, boat lettering, banners, etc. Any size any color. Call Pete Kocenas 517-348-8627 or 1-800-848-1268. (3/9/00t/f/4)

BAND INSTRUMENT REPAIRS Thirty years experience, prompt service. Fred Battershell. (517) 275-8382 (LR5/18/00/4)

PIANO TUNING AND REPAIRS Rogers Piano Service, Fairview, MI 48621. Over 20 years experience. (517) 848-2262. (3/19/91t/f/4)

SKYLINE RESTAURANT FRI-DAY NIGHT Special. Your choice of 1/2 lb. of Shrimp, Cod Filets, or Smelt. Served with our special Seasoned Fries. \$4.99 517-275-5445 (3/2/00t/f/4)

TRY OUR Giant Wet Burrito or Nacho Supreme, only 46 Pesos on Saturdays. Drink specials all day. Skyline Ski and Country Club. 517-275-5445 (3/23/00t/f/4)

SKYLINE SKI & Country Club. Prime Rib Special Thursday only \$8.95, open at noon. Lounge and restaurant open Thursday thru Sunday, noon till midnight. 517-275-5445 (3/23/00t/f/4)

5. For Sale

1995 36' TRAVEL TRAILER with expando, like new. 14 x 70 trailer, good condition. 517-348-5275 (-2-9-16-23-30/5)

TRACTOR ALLIS Chalmers model W D 45, 226 C1 cubic inch, 4 cylinders. Front blade, front bucket, rear blade, needs brakes. \$2,500 O.B.O. Call 810-953-1892. (LR3/30/00/5)

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER Almond. Good condition. 30" width, 26" depth, 5'5" height, \$100. Great for cabin or small household. Also old Admiral small upright freezer, works well \$50. 517-348-2328 (-30/5)

THE CLASSIFIED - The perfect place to find that first car. (517) 348-6811

5. For Sale

21 FT. WINNEBAGO motor home. 1979, good condition. 60,000 miles. Asking \$7,995 517-348-3039, 5:30-9:30 p.m. (-30/5)

1972 CROSSROADS TRAVEL TRAILER \$1,500, call weekends only. 517-348-6891 (-30-6/5)

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALS COLLECTIONS with stamp. Complete to Clinton. Postal Commemorative Society. All encased, husband deceased. 517-732-4253 (-30-6/5)

ROUGH CUT OAK BOARDS one inch random widths and lengths. You pick. 231-632-8418 (-23-30/5)

WANTED '94 or newer 24 ft. pontoon boat and motor. Approximate price range \$6,000 to \$8,000. Call 517-348-8659 or 348-8232. (3/30/00t/f/5)

ENGLISH SETTER PUPS Four males, five months old, white and copper coats. AKC registered, excellent bloodline, parents well versed at hunting. Ready for training for this fall's hunt. First shots. Any reasonable offer considered. Call 517-348-4312. (-30/5)

1987 JAYCO 5TH WHEEL Excellent condition, walk thru bath with tub and shower. Free standing dinette, awning, microwave, etc. No air. \$9,800 or best offer. 517-275-5445 (-30-6-13/5)

6. Wanted

SKYLINE SKI & Country Club. Prime Rib Special Thursday only \$8.95, open at noon. Lounge and restaurant open Thursday thru Sunday, noon till midnight. 517-275-5445 (3/23/00t/f/6)

4. Services Offered

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY Over 10 years experience Choose fabric in your home FREE estimates • Pick-up & delivery Shirley Bolton (231) 258-2610

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6. Wanted

SKYLINE RESTAURANT FRI-DAY NIGHT Special. Your choice of 1/2 lb. of Shrimp, Cod Filets, or Smelt. Served with our special Seasoned Fries. \$4.99 517-275-5445 (3/2/00t/f/6)

TRY OUR Giant Wet Burrito or Nacho Supreme, only 46 Pesos on Saturdays. Drink specials all day. Skyline Ski and Country Club. 517-275-5445 (3/23/00t/f/6)

7. Miscellaneous

LOST DOG White and tan, 45 lbs., green collar. Answers to Boomer. Last seen McMansters and North Down River Roads. 517-619-9999 Reward (-30-6/7)

FREE TO a good home. Hotpoint washing machine, 18 years old, but still works. 517-348-9092 (-30/7)

4. Services Offered

SMALL JOB SERVICES HOME REPAIRS Len Rodney - 348-8680

COMPLETE SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION & CLEANING Jack Millikin, Inc. 348-8411

Odd-Job Enterprises Let us do your small home repairs FREE ESTIMATES - CALL U.C. Norm Schmooch (Ret.) 348-5132 No odd jobs too small for Odd Job

Handwritten wedding invitations, baby announcements, resumes, business cards, signs and flyers Kellie Kitchen 517-348-2449

7. Miscellaneous

TWO BEAGLES LOST in Sherwood Forest area. One big seven year old male Beagle, white and tan. One little nine month old female Beagle, black, white and tan. Tan head and black, ties on back. Reward offered \$25. Please call 517-348-2388 or 517-348-3949 (-30/7)

FREE TO GOOD HOME Chihuahua Dachshund mix. 517-348-4142 (-30/7)

8. Announcements

CRAFT SHOW, BAKE SALE sponsored by The American Legion Auxiliary at the Grayling Post (back door) on Saturday April 8, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call 517-348-1369 or 517-348-7277 (LR4/6/00/8)

REIKI CLASSES First and second degree April 8, 9-4. Call Dr. Toupin for more info. 517-348-4560 (-16-23-30/8)

4. Services Offered

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LAKE LOG CABIN ON 3 ACRES - \$69,900. Free boat slip! Gorgeous, new, genuine log cabin (over 1200 sq ft) in spectacular mountain setting w/wooded access to 34,000 acre recreational lake in Tennessee - close to 18 hole golf course! Paved roads, utilities, soils tested. Excellent financing. Call now 800-704-3154, ext. 9181.

ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT BUYING OR SELLING YOUR TIME-SHARE CAMPGROUND MEMBERSHIP? CALL 1-800-423-5967. WE HAVE BEEN HELPING PEOPLE BUY AND SELL FOR OVER 18 YEARS! NEVER AN APPRAISAL FEE! 9 AM TO 7 PM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

TENNESSEE LAKE BARGAIN. 3 acres with boat slip \$24,900. Beautifully wooded, spectacular views, with access to crystal clear mtn lake next to 18 hole golf course! Paved roads, utilities, soils tested. Low, low financing. Call LMS 800-704-3154 ext 1745

SO, COLORADO RANCH 40 AC - \$36,900 1st time offered! Rolling fields, outstanding Rocky Mtn views, tremendous wildlife & recreation. Yr round access. Tel & elec. Excellent financing. Call Red Creek Ranch toll-free 877-676-6367.

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DRIVER - Owner Operators up to \$1.60 per loaded mile. Tractor, Cargo Van & 18-24 ft. Straight Truck, owners needed. Call Panther II Transportation today! 800-640-7055.

EMPLOYMENT

\$25,000 SCHOLARSHIPS Paid training. Job placement, GED's, Career in Medical, Dental, Construction, Welding and more. Program for 18-24 yr. olds. Call 1-800-774-5627. Prizes to the first 100 enrolled.

ADVERTISING SCREENERS! Work from Home. PC required. \$20.00/Hr & up. Call Toll Free Freedom Marketing 1-800-707-5003 extension 8608.

EARN \$\$\$! Medical insurance Billing Assistance needed immediately! Use your computer for great potential annual income. Call Now! 1-800-291-4683 Dept. #178

Friendly Toys and Gifts wishes to thank our customers, hostesses, dealers for their record breaking 1999. Hundreds won \$1,000 prizes! For year 2000 information 1-800-488-4875

AIR FORCE. Great career opportunities available for high school grads, ages 17-27. Plus up to \$12,000 enlistment bonus if you qualify! For an information packet call 1-800-423-USAUF or visit www.airforce.com.

DRIVERS...EXPERIENCED/INEXPERIENCED DRIVERS/O/O WANTED! CDL TRAINING AVAILABLE! EXCELLENT PAY, BENEFITS ASSIGNED EQUIPMENT. ASK ABOUT \$1,000 SIGN-ON BONUS! SWIFT TRANSPORTATION 1-800-575-9487 (oee-nvl)

MEDICAL BILLER - Great income Potential! Process claims. Full training provided. Computer required. Call Titan toll free! 888-660-6693, ext. 4307.

DO YOU EARN \$800 IN A DAY? Your own Local Candy Route. Includes 30 machines and free candy. All for \$9,995 Call 1-800-998-VEND.

DRIVERS: NORTH American Van Lines has tractor trailer 48 - state hauling opportunities for owner operators. Minimum of 3 months experience required. Call 1-800-348-2147. Dept. MIS.

DRIVERS - 372 Drivers Needed!!! 14 Day CDL Program, No Cost Training if Qualified. Start at \$35K to \$40K Per Year! Call 1-800-448-6669.

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS! Set your own schedule. Control your own income. Sell from your home, at work, through fundraisers. Be an AVON REPRESENTATIVE. Call 888-942-4053.

AIRCRAFT GROUND CREW Openings for handlers, fuelers, machine & electronic trainees. On-the-job training w/full pay provided. H. S. grads 17-24 preferred, paid relocation, \$5000 bonus if hired by May 31. Call 1-800-371-7456 8-4 M-F

DRIVER - Owner Operators up to \$1.60 per loaded mile. Tractor, Cargo Van & 18-24 ft. Straight Truck, owners needed. Call Panther II Transportation today! 800-640-7055.

DRIVERS...WE OFFER: 39 cents/mile Earning "Potential" Complete Benefit Package "Lease Purchase Program" "Guaranteed Home Time INTERESTED" CALL: 1-800-247-8040 SMITHWAY MOTOR XPRESS.

DRIVER COVENANT TRANS-PORT Coast to Coast Runs "Teams Start 42c - 45c \$1,000 Sign-On Bonus for Exp. Co. Drivers. Experienced Drivers And Owner Operators 1-800-441-4394 For Graduate Students 1-800-338-6428

DRIVERS - NEW 2K PAY! OTR: 6 mo. exp. - 30/cpm. Top Pay: 40/cpm. Regional: - 36/cpm. Jump Start Lease Program! MS Carriers 1-800-231-5209 EOE.

SALES/MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE Excellent opportunity for an experienced and energetic sales professional looking for unlimited earning potential. Michigan Newspapers incorporated helps firms grow their business by simplifying the advertising placement process. We're looking for someone with a proven track record in selling broadcast and/or print media to ad agencies, has a college degree (preferably) and is comfortable using the World Wide Web. The excellent salary/commission/benefits package, plus a fun-loving work environment make this a tremendous opportunity. There's minimal overnight travel, though we will expect you to go the

extra mile to land new business. Please send resume, salary history and a cover letter outlining your ideas on catching and keeping new clients to: MNI Sales Representative, 827 N. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI 48906-5199. Deadline: May 1, 2000. All responses confidential

DISABLED? New and used wheel chair vans. Trades welcome. New and used wheelchair lifts, hand controls, etc. V.A. and worker's comp welcome. 1-800-345-3150.

HOMEOWNERS WITH Credit Womans may now quickly qualify for loans. Stone castle is a direct lender that can tell you over the phone - and without - obligation! Call 1-800-700-1242 ext. 352.

HOMEOWNERS GET CASH FAST! CREDIT PROBLEMS? WE CAN HELP! DEBT CONSOLIDATION! "PAY OFF ALL BILLS" "HOME IMPROVEMENTS" "FORECLOSURES" "QUICK CLOSINGS" "ALIBED MORTGAGE CAPITAL" CORP 800-611-3766

"LAND CONTRACTS" If you're receiving payments on a Land Contract. GET A BETTER CASH PRICE IN ONE DAY. Argo Realty (248) 569-1200 Toll-Free 1-800-367-2746.

DOCTOR LOANS MONEY ON REAL ESTATE AND BUYS LAND CONTRACTS Fast closing, immediate cash Deal directly with Doctor Daniels & Son. 1-800-837-6166. 1-245-335-6166

BANKS LET YOU DOWN? Monthly Bills To High? Need Cash? Rely On Us To Help. Good/Bad Credit. Purchases / Homeowner Refinances DEPENDABLE MORTGAGE 1-800-233-4953 1-517-892-1783

NEED CASH??? WE pay cash for remaining payments on Property Sold! Mortgages! Annuities! Injury Settlements! Immediate Quotes!! Nobody beats our prices! National Contract Buyers (800) 490-0731 ext. 701.

BEEN TURNED DOWN? NEED A HOMELOAN?? BK's, Foreclosures, late payments - it's OK! Purchase, Refinance, Debt Consolidation, Home Improvement, CALL NOW PLATINUM CAPITAL. 1-800-699-5353. www.platinumcapital.com

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PURPLE MARTIN BIRD HOUSES 12-Family: \$29.95 & S/H. Telescopc Poles/ Accessories Available. Free Catalog. Order Today! Call 1-800-691-6455. Toll Free: www.purplemartin.net

FRAGRANCE SUPER DIS-

COUNT! Loucheron (L) 3.4 oz \$81.99. Bulgari (L) 3.4 oz \$91.99. Check/Money Order + \$8.00 S/H. M & M Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 56374, Washington, DC 20011. Delivery in 21 days. LIMITED NUMBER. ORDER NOW!

DISABLED? New and used wheel chair vans. Trades welcome. New and used wheelchair lifts, hand controls, etc. V.A. and worker's comp welcome. 1-800-345-3150.

ADOPTION: Loving, childless couple wishes to adopt an infant and provide a happy home and lots of love. Call evenings and weekends. Toll free: 1-877-738-5608.

ADOPTION Our hearts, hugs, & security await a baby. Carol & Terry long to share their happy life with a little one. Please call us 1-800-484-1661 (#1167).

COMPUTERS

DELL COMPUTERS: File your taxes online this year! Low payments. Resolved credit problems OK! Call Now for Free internet access! OMC 800-477-9016 OK12

WANT A COMPUTER?? But No Cash?? MMX Technology will finance with "0" down. Fast credit problems, no problem. Call toll free 1-888-873-6003.

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BUILD YOUR OWN HOME. You serve as project manager and Save. We'll guide you. 100% financing. Your efforts earn equity COBS Homes 1-888-477-2627 www.cobshomes.com

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SAWMILL \$3795. Saw logs into boards, planks, beams. Large capacity. Best sawmill values anywhere. Free information. Norwood Sawmills, 252 Sonwil Drive, Buffalo, NY 14225. 1-800-578-1363.

AMAZINGLY LOW PRICES Wolf Tanning Beds. Buy Factory Direct. Excellent Service. Flexible Financing Avail. Home/Commercial Units. FREE Color Catalog 1-800-842-1310

REACH 2 MILLION Michigan readers with a 2 x 2 display ad for only \$949 - Contact Linda at Michigan Newspapers Inc. 517-372-2424

PLACE YOUR STATEWIDE AD HERE! \$249 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.3 million circulation. Plus your ad will be placed on AdQuest 3D Classifieds and Michigan Press Association's websites. Contact the Crawford County Avalanche at 517-348-6811 for details.

ATTENTION: WORK AT HOME Earn an Extra \$500-\$7000/mo PT/FT Full Training Provided 1-515-327-8495 www.eprogress.cjb.net

DRIVERS -ARE YOU GETTING A RAISE? Roehl flatbed drivers are! Exp. F/B drivers earn 33-37¢ mi; 35-39¢ w/bonus plus tarp pay! O/Os paid up to 85¢ for Van, 96¢ for flatbed plus fuel, tolls insurance, tractor programs & choice of Nat'l or Regional Fleet. E.O.E. \$\$ 1-800-467-6345 \$\$ www.roehl.net

DETAILER, small growth oriented manufacturing company, in Newaygo County has immediate opening for a full time detailer. Individual must be experienced in use of autocad design, familiar with use and application of mechanical equipment, experience helpful. Salary based on qualifications, full benefit package. Please send resume and salary requirements to: SandMold Systems, Inc., 313 W. State Road, Newaygo, MI 49337, Attn Human Resource Manager or fax to 231-652-1629. We are an equal opportunity employer.

WILDLIFE JOBS TO \$21.60/HR INC. BENEFITS, GAME WARDENS, SECURITY, MAINTENANCE, PARK RANGERS. NO EXP NEEDED. FOR APP. AND EXAM INFO, CALL 1-800-813-3585, EXT. 3883, 8 AM - 9 PM, 7 DAYS fds, inc -30-6-13-20/3

POSTAL JOBS TO \$18.35/HR INC. BENEFITS, NO EXPERIENCE. FOR APP. AND EXAM INFO, CALL 1-800-813-3585, EXT. 3882, 8 AM - 9 PM, 7 DAYS fds, inc -30-6-13-20/3

Office Help Wanted

Title clerk experience preferred. Accounting background helpful. Part-time position. Send resume to:

175 BUSINESS LOOP
GRAYLING FORD MERCURY LINCOLN
208 South James Street • Grayling, MI (EOE)

KIRTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE is accepting applications for a part-time instructor to teach college students fundamental writing skills in the college's writing center beginning August, 2000 (successful applicant will need to complete 30 hours of paid training prior to August, 2000). Commitment of 6-8 hours per week while classes are in session; may work with individual and/or small groups of students. Minimum qualifications: Bachelor's degree in English or developmental English; strong command of English punctuation, grammar and sentence structure; excellent written and spoken communications skills; and ability to work with college level students from diverse backgrounds. Teaching experience preferred. Interested applicants should submit letter of application, resume, credentials and unofficial transcripts to Human Resources Office, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653 (517) 275-5000. Applications will be accepted until May 1, 2000. Visit our web site at http://www.kirtland.cc.mi.us. Kirtland Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. -30/3

WANTED ANY PRE 1978 Bear Archery items for my own personal collection. Call Pete Kocenas 517-348-8627. 1-800-848-1268 (3/23/00t/8)

GRAYLING HOLIDAY INN'S Speakeasy Saloon Live entertainment Tuesday thru Saturday bands playing 4-12 thru 4-15 Mo Jo and the Boogiemans; 4-19 thru 4-22 Crowd Pleasers; 4-26 thru 4-29 Denny Luce. (-30-6-13/8)

SOUP/SANDWICH/SALAD/DESSERT luncheon. Thursday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$4.50 per person. Take out available. Everyone welcome. Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church on Michigan Ave. (-30/8)

SKYLINE RESTAURANT FRIDAY NIGHT Special. Your choice of 1/2 lb. of Shrimp, Cod Filets, or Smelt. Served with our special Seasoned Fries. \$4.99 517-275-5445 (3/2/00t/8)

SKYLINE SKI & Country Club. Prime Rib Special Thursday only \$8.95, open at noon. Lounge and restaurant open Thursday thru Sunday, noon till midnight. 517-275-5445 (3/23/00t/8)

SAWMILL SERVES Fish and Steak Specials anytime, every day of the week. \$5.95 each. (1/27/00t/8)

STOP INTO THE SAWMILL for daily home made soup and sandwich special. (1/27/00t/8)

TRY OUR Giant Wet Burrito or Nacho Supreme, only 46 Pesos on Saturdays. Drink specials all day. Skyline Ski and Country Club. 517-275-5445 (3/23/00t/8)

10. Garage Sales

MOVING SALE Thurs.- Sun. 10 to 5. 7225 W. Batterson Rd., Frederic. Hotpoint refrigerator and freezer, three piece bedroom set, water softener, sofa Hide-A-bed, 21 cu ft. chest type freezer, 4 x 8 utility trailer, lawn mower, twin bed and much, much more. (-30/10)

OPEN Yorty's Antiques and Collectibles. Saturdays 12 to 5, Co. Rd. 200 by 1st Bank, Higgins Lake. 517-821-9242 (-9-16-23-30/10)

\$2.00 Bag Sale

All clothing dated 3/00 and before

St. Francis Thrift Shop

6445 West M-72, Grayling (517) 348-2572

10. Garage Sales

MOVING, MUST SELL Couch and love seat, \$600 for both; glass and stone end tables \$300 complete set. Everything in excellent condition. Must see. 517-821-5995 (-30-6/10)

MOVING SALE Friday, March 31, 1-6 p.m., and Saturday, April 1, 9-5 p.m., 3209 Rasmus Dr. near Camp Grayling. Everything must go, furniture, washer, dryer, household items, T.V. and stereo. (-23-30/10)

11. Automotive

1989 CHEVY 4 X 4 1/2 ton. 350. V-8, loaded with 7 1/2 Western plow. \$7,700 517-348-6224 (-23-30/11)

'99 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE Fully loaded. Call Cindy at home 517-821-5922; at work 517-422-2794. (2-9-16/11)

1992 BUICK LESABRE Fully loaded, looks and runs very good. 114,000 miles, one owner. \$3,900 517-348-7723 (-30-6/11)

11. Automotive

1988 DODGE COLT VISTA 4 x 4 Power windows, cruise, AM/FM cassette, great gas mileage. 116,000 miles, new transmission. \$800 or best offer. 517-348-6270 (-30/11)

1996 FORD EXPLORER SPORT Two door, four WD, only 41,000 miles. Loaded real clean. \$15,900 O.B.O. 517-348-8659 evening, 517-348-8232 days. (3/9/00t/11)

1994 CHEVY SUBURBAN 2500 454 engine with heavy duty trailer package. Dual air, loaded, one owner. Arizona truck, excellent condition. \$14,900 Phone 517-422-2934. (-30/11)

BANKRUPT, SLOW PAY, COLLECTIONS, CHARGE OFFS? SCHEER MOTORS NOW HAS A SPECIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO HELP OUR CREDIT CHALLENGED CUSTOMERS. Call or stop by today and ask Deb for a confidential credit interview. (800) 968-8848 or (517) 348-5451. -13-t/11

Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services, Inc. will be accepting application for membership on the Substance Abuse Treatment Provider Panel in Crawford County. Applications from substance abuse service outpatient and intensive outpatient providers that are licensed by the Department of Industry and Consumer Services and accredited by JCAHO, CARF, COA or AOA will be accepted through April 13, 2000. For additional information contact Heidi Serven at 517-732-1791.

Answers												
USA	F	I	N	D	O	T	E	D	S	P	A	N
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CARS

1996 Cadillac Sedan DeVille D'Elegance - Leather, loaded, loaded, loaded! Don't pay \$45,000 for a new one! Stock #26841 Was \$24,988 Now \$23,988
1996 Pontiac Sunfire Coupe - Teal, auto., air, CD, only 20,000 miles, great car for that college student or someone that likes a sporty car! Stock #17185-1 Was \$13,488 Now \$12,988
1996 Dodge Stratus - 4 dr., nicely equipped, auto., air, etc. Stock #16996-1 Was \$10,988 Now \$10,688
1996 Chrysler Sebring Convertible - Automatic, red, tan top, very nice! Wintertime price on a summertime car! Stock #4154 Was \$19,988 Now \$13,988
1996 Buick LeSabre - Custom, full power, all of the bells and whistles. Very clean! Stock #16186-1 Was \$12,988 Now \$12,688
1997 Dodge Stratus - Fully equipped, only 37,000 miles, one owner trade in. Can't miss with this one! Stock #17142-1 Was \$10,988 Now \$10,688
1997 Chevrolet Lumina LS - fully equipped with all of the options. A great car, top of the line interior and exterior. Stock #4262 Was \$12,988 Now \$12,688
1997 Chevy Camaro - Auto., air, tilt, cruise, power windows/doors, cassette, keyless entry, very clean & only 24,000 miles & factory warranty. Stock #113913 Was \$15,988 Now \$15,688
1997 Saturn SC2 Coupe - Sharp little red 2 door with air, auto., CD player, cruise and much more! Nice! Stock #209024 Was \$13,288 Now \$12,988
1997 Geo Prizm - Great economy car, built to last! Air, 5 speed manual, sunroof, CD player, cruise, power windows and locks, gets great gas mileage! Stock #419067 Was \$11,488 Now \$10,988
1997 Chevrolet Lumina - Cream puff! 20,000 miles, full power, custom LS, cloth interior, tilt, cruise, cassette. This one won't last! White. Stock #207487 Was \$14,988 Now \$14,488
1997 Pontiac Sunfire Convertible - Automatic, teal, white top, very nicely equipped and clean. You won't be able to buy a convertible in the summertime for a price like this! Stock #4136 Was \$14,988 Now \$11,988
1997 Buick Century Custom - One owner, loaded with dual air, CD/cassette, full power! Low, low miles. Don't pay \$25,000 for a new one! Stock #16669-1 Was \$15,988 Now \$13,488
1996 Ford Taurus GL - Wonderful way to get around without spending \$20,000! Family car looking for a family! Stock #4264 Was \$9,988 Now \$9,488
1995 Chevy Corsica - Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cassette, power windows, power locks and much more! Great little car for a very reasonable price! Only 55,000 miles! Stock #4273 Was \$7,988 Now \$7,688
1995 Dodge Neon 4 Dr. - Automatic with air, very clean and economical. Gas prices are going up! Stock #4190 Was \$7,988 Now \$6,488
1993 Mercury Sable - Nice, clean car for not a lot of money! Well equipped and ready to take home! Stock #4280 Was \$6,988 Now \$6,688
1993 Ford Taurus GL - Nice clean car, only 78,000 miles. Stock #4255 Was \$6,488 Now \$5,988

TRUCKS & VANS

1999 Chevy S-10 Blazer - LS, power, full equipment, very nice and not \$30,000. Stock #4214 Was \$21,988 Now \$20,488
1999 Dodge Grand Caravan SE - The perfect family vehicle. Fully equipped waiting for you and your little ones! Stock #4149 Was \$19,988 Now \$17,988
1998 Chevy Blazer - 4 door, 4x4, LT with leather, loaded. New and sharp. Stock #4285 Was \$18,988 Now \$18,488
1998 Pontiac Trans Sport - Great minivan with only 26,000 miles. Nicely equipped with the options you need. Stock #4278 Was \$17,988 Now \$17,488
1998 Pontiac Montana - Loaded! Everything available is on this one! Ready for your spring break trip to warm weather. Stock #4277 Was \$18,488 Now \$17,988
1998 Ford Windstar - Nice shape, full equipment. Less than half the price of a new one. Stock #17118-1 Was \$13,988 Now \$13,288
1998 Chevrolet Tahoe 4 Dr. 4x4 LT - Maxed out leather, CD/cassette. Brand new tires! Off lease. Don't pay \$40,000. Stock #4242 Was \$27,988 Now \$26,988
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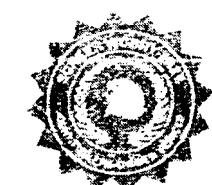
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Express Your Style: Add Color, Accessories to Home's Exterior

Your home — both inside and out — is a reflection of your sense of style.

If you're like most homeowners, you spend a great deal of time and effort personalizing the interior of your home, coordinating the color, furniture, accessories and window treatments. Your choices in design and decoration tell a story about you and your family.

But what about when you're renovating the outside of your home? Nothing is more visible or makes a stronger statement to others than the outside of your house.

"When it comes to remodeling the exterior of the home, change is more often than not inspired by need," said Kim Lenz, director of marketing.

Exterior Systems Business, Owens Corning. "You replace a roof because it's been damaged or it's leaking, and you install



On this house, vinyl siding and stone accent pieces complement each other.

vinyl siding because you don't want to have to paint your house all the time to maintain its exterior. Although these changes are necessary from a performance standpoint, don't forget that they also present an excellent opportunity to improve the look and style of your home."

Here are a few tips from building materials leader Owens Corning that can help you create an attractive exterior style.

For starters, the exterior of a home begins at the curb, not at the front door. To extend your home's presence and make it seem larger than it is, pay attention to the entire perimeter of your home. Walkways, benches, landscaping, dramatic lighting and driveway embellishments set the stage for a home's exterior.

Homeowners often aren't aware of the wide variety of products, colors and accessories available today. Be sure to ask your contractor to provide a full range of color and style options that complement each other. Don't forget about decorative millwork, such as pediments and scalloped trim that can be added to entranceways and windows to give a home Victorian charm. Or add artificial stone products to create a natural earthy feel to a home's exterior.

One of the simplest ways for homeowners to update their exterior is by using new color combinations. Owens Corning offers a wide array of vinyl siding, roofing and accessories for the exterior of the home, which are available in carefully selected colors that complement a variety of architectural styles, designs and settings.

Use these simple steps to help assure the colors you choose will give your home a color

scheme that you will love throughout the years:

- **Light Colors Makes Things Look Larger:** On a smaller home, a light color can make it look much larger. Also, your home will seem closer to the front of the lot when done in warm colors such as yellows, reds and oranges.

- **Deeper Colors Make Things Look Smaller:** Deep, dark colors — especially cool colors such as blues and greens — can create the impression that your home is set back farther on your lot. If your home is close to other homes, a dark color might make the area seem less crowded. Also, keep in mind that with heavily wooded or shady landscaping, a dark color might make your home "disappear" at night. Instead, try using lighter colors to set your house apart from its surroundings.

- **One Color Scheme Creates Balance:** On a home with many complex angles, a monochromatic color scheme will help create balance.

Unlike interior designers who can use artificial lighting to enhance the color scheme of a room, homeowners must rely on natural light to enhance the exteriors of their homes.

Choose colors that look good throughout the entire day — under direct sunlight, clouds and in the dark. Knowing this, take roofing and siding samples outside to make your decision instead of staying inside under artificial lighting. Also, view samples from different angles — straight on, side to side and from up above.

Once you've selected several styles and colors you like, work with your contractor to determine how each would work on your home.

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The Once-A-Year Once-Over For Your Home's Exterior

You may not judge a book by its cover, but think again if you're applying that adage to your home. Whether buying, selling or staying put, your home's exterior greatly affects first impressions as well as market value. By properly maintaining its exterior, your home's curb appeal is enhanced and you protect your investment. While no home is truly maintenance free, an annual house checkup keeps chores in check and rewards you while you live there and when you sell.

"Curb appeal is one of the most important factors in home sales," says Kathy Diffley, president of the St. Paul, Minn., Area Association of Realtors. "If you drive up to a house that's well cared for, buyers become excited." In fact, Diffley asserts that many buyers make a decision within a few seconds of arriving at a home — before even entering the front door. "Buyers are busy," says Diffley. "There's seldom time to view an interior if the exterior is disappointing."

Both the condition and color of a home's exterior affect buyers' impressions. According to Ray Pittman, a Chicago industrial designer and member of the prestigious Color Marketing Group, color also influences purchase decisions. Pittman, who advises Masonite Corporation on color choices for their Colorlok® factory-finished hardboard siding line, says, "Introducing a new, carefully selected siding color, or 'tweaking' a current shade, has been known to increase a siding's sales by as much as 40 percent in just one year."

And maintenance of your home's exterior should increase its worth and your pleasure. Think of home maintenance as physical fitness for your home. This enables you to take preventative measures to avoid situations that can become time-consuming, costly problems. Masonite Corporation now offers a free brochure on home exterior maintenance that helps homeowners know where to start. To receive yours, write to: Masonite Corporation, Dept. SB, One South Wacker Drive, Suite 3600, Chicago, IL 60606. A video showing step-by-step maintenance is also available for a \$2.50 handling fee (Dept. HV). Please include a check or money order payable to Masonite Corporation.

The best place to start your once over is with a yearly home inspection. It's all too easy to become complacent about minor problems right under your nose. Drive up to your house, viewing it through the eyes of a buyer. As Diffley puts it, "It's amazing what homeowners suddenly see!"

First, how do your sidewalk and driveway look? Do you see cracks or buckles? Consider calling an expert to determine if replacement is needed, or if



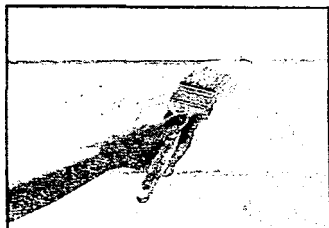
A yearly home inspection can help avoid costly maintenance problems while protecting the beauty of your home.



Any opening that can lead directly to the interior walls of the home should be sealed to the weather.



All flashing installations should be caulked with a non-hardening, high quality, long-life caulk.



Paint protects the home's siding from wear and damage due to the weather.



Cutting foliage away from direct contact with the siding helps prevent algae and mildew growth.

other remedies will help.

Next, check out your landscaping. Is it neatly trimmed, or overgrown? Are foliage and shrubbery surrounding your home gangly or growing against the siding? If so, trim them to restore that "cared for" look. This also benefits your siding by restoring air circulation between shrubs and siding, and giving sunshine access to help keep the siding dry. While inspecting, check to see if algae or mildew is growing on the siding, especially behind the plants. If so, buy a mildew wash at your local hardware store and apply it to affected areas.

Follow with a close look at doors and windows. Your front

door not only keeps out the cold, it's also your home's "welcome mat." Check its appearance and make any needed improvements. (How's the screen door? Polish that door knob and/or kick-plate. Repaint if color is fading.) Next, take a close look at your windows. Is the trim peeling or bubbling? It may be time to scrape and repaint.

Now take a look at the house as a whole. Does your home's exterior appear clean and well maintained? Does the siding have dents, cracks or discoloration? Check siding for any nail or caulking irregularities.

Continued on Page 10
See "ONCE-OVER"

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Garden-Fresh Wallcoverings Bloom Throughout The Year

By Lis King

Now that gardening has emerged as one of America's top three leisure activities, it's hardly surprising that the lines between indoor and outdoor decorating have blurred. From Brooklyn to Berkeley, and from New Orleans to Newport, green thumbs and green horns alike are on the hunt for decorative elements that bring the gardening experience inside.

"We're seeing people putting outdoor sculptures and urns in their living rooms, and wallcoverings and fabrics that bring in the outdoors are enormously popular," explains Barbara Lazarow, home fashion expert for Blonder. "It appears that we just love adding the sweet smell of earth...or at least the illusion thereof...to our interiors. It's probably a reaction to the hustle and bustle of commuting and work today. We yearn for yesterday's rural life, so in a way those garden elements are the cows and chickens for those of us living in suburbs and cities."

Lazarow emphasizes that this doesn't mean a garden-themed room is rustic.

"It can be rustic if that's what you want," she says. "But just like there are informal and formal gardens, rooms decorated in the garden style can be anything from casual to elegant."

Art On A Roll

The newest crop of home fashions bears out Lazarow's interpretation of today's decorating trends. Furniture with



Summer's roses are interpreted by a fine water colorist in this romantic wallcovering and border from the "Rose Sachet" collection in the Talmadge Designer Series by Blonder. Garden-themed wallcoverings abound today, with designs ranging from bountiful baskets to elegant faux designs reminiscent of weathered villa walls.

weather-worn finishes, bamboo-anything, wrought iron accessories, art with botanical themes, and garden-inspired wallcoverings and fabrics abound.

Professional designers say that it makes sense to start a garden-themed room with the walls.

"The walls set the stage," explains Lazarow. "They are the largest surface in a room, so when you treat them right, you're off to a great start. And the good news is that if you want to establish a garden look, there are lots of choices. Wallcovering manufacturers have been very

responsive to the gardening trend, and the names of recent collections provide instant clues to their design content. For example, Blonder's newest collections include Shelbourne's "Garden Walk"; "Rose Sachet" and "Hummingbird Hollow", both from the Talmadge Designer Series; Carefree's "Garden Lane"; "Brownstone Botanicals"; and Cambridge Studios' "Country Home & Garden."

"There are many more, of course," she continues. "But just leafing through these books, it becomes obvious that today's garden-themed wallcoverings are enormously creative. Many deserve to be called 'art on a roll'. They may be as romantic as Monet's garden paintings or as realistic as the botanist's drawings. They may mimic the fresco techniques of Tuscan villas or the fragile strokes of watercolor artists. The range of artistry is remarkable, and this is the reason that such collections are showing up in today's best rooms. Whether your garden look is English cottage, Versailles formal, Oriental symbolism or contemporary simplicity, there are wallcoverings that will set the stage."

Foolproof Design Groups

Most of the explicit garden themes, such as elaborate floral wreaths, collections of garden tools and pottery or baskets brimming with fruit, flowers or veggies, are reserved for borders, with more neutral patterns used on wallcovering. And don't worry about finding the right wallcovering to go with the border.

The wallcovering books do it for you. The designs are arranged in pattern and color families to virtually eliminate decorating errors, and that goes for fabrics as well as wallcoverings and borders. The "Country Home & Garden" collection even includes coordinating area rugs.

Continued on Page 6
See "WALLCOVERINGS"

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How To 'Spring' Into A Perfect Paint Job

As the mercury begins its rise after a winter hibernation, spring is when many of us finally rise off the couch and make the great leap toward painting the house.

Whether it's minor trim work or re-painting the entire house, this is the season when 25% of all exterior paint jobs occur. An even greater number of paint projects are considered during this period, but dismissed because of their perceived difficulty.

But the fact is, with a little paint knowledge, proper preparation and a quick "primer" on how to paint, the process is as rewarding as it is essential.

So if you're about to give your home a new coat, here are a few things worth remembering before stepping up on the ladder.

Paint Selection

With winter but a memory, you may notice that the season's coldness and moisture have left your siding cracked and faded. Or, you may be sick and tired of the color you've lived with all these years.

Whatever your reason for painting, the first thing to decide is what kind — and color — of paint to use.

First and foremost, paint experts agree that the last thing you want to do is skimp on paint quality, especially for your home's "envelope."

Lower-quality paint doesn't offer a durable enough coating and is prone to fading, cracking and peeling. Premium paints also cover more fully in one coat, thereby saving you time and money by not having to paint a surface over and over.

When selecting the color scheme, remember that color can make a house look larger (lighter tones) or smaller (darker colors), as well as more inviting or secluded. Also, make sure the color you choose will complement your home's landscape and surrounding area.

Once you've decided on the color, your next step is selecting a sheen. According to Tom Rapps, brand manager for Dutch Boy Paints, the simplest piece of advice is to go with a flat or satin sheen for all your primary surfaces, and a gloss or semi-gloss for trim, doors, trellises, etc.

Your next dilemma is latex v. oil. Oil-based paints once reigned supreme, but most pros now prefer the ease and convenience of latex.

"Oil penetrates wood better, but latex dries faster, doesn't yellow and can be cleaned up with soap and water," says Rapps. "In addition to being more environment-friendly, latex also expands and contracts with the temperature, something



When selecting new exterior paint, always choose a premium product and make sure the color complements your landscape and surrounding area.

oil paints don't do."

How Much To Use?

Armed with the information on what color, sheen and type of paint you want, don't wait until you're in the paint aisle to figure out how much you'll need to get the job done.

The easiest way to determine the scope of the project is to first measure the total distance around the house and multiply that by the height (from ground to eaves). Then add the square feet of all gables. (The area of a gable is determined by multiplying its base by its height and dividing by two). This will give you the total square feet of the house.

Divide total square feet by 400 to determine gallons needed. If you have painted masonry or stucco, add 50 percent more paint. If the exterior features painted shingles or shakes, add 20 percent.

The All-Important Prep Work

The last step before priming and painting the house is the prep work.

"Ask any professional painter and they'll all say the most important step to a great paint job is great preparation," says Dutch Boy's Rapps.

The two-step process entails preparing the house and the surface. In preparing the house, the key is to cover or remove anything you don't want painted, from cars in the driveway to bushes, screens and shutters.

To prepare the surface, scrape away loose, scaling paint; replace damaged siding, sills and trim; sand the gloss off shiny surfaces; caulk cracks or gaps around windows and doors; and scrub away dirt, grease and mildew.

Next Step: Painting Your Masterpiece

Now that you've got the right paint and the proper surface to receive your would-be creation, the hard part is behind you. Believe it or not, the most enjoyable part of the whole project is about to begin.

"The act of applying color to a

surface should be a rewarding and exciting exercise for people," Rapps says. "Here you are creating a beautiful look to your home, increasing its value and protecting your investment with each stroke of a brush."

Where do you start? All exterior paint jobs should begin with the gables.

From there, move to the siding, painting from top to bottom.

You'll want to paint windows next. Using a sash brush, paint upper windows first so that you won't need to lean a ladder against fresh paint.

After that, paint trim work and then doors.

Dutch Boy's Rapps offers these additional pieces of advice for painting an exterior:

- Always paint away from the sun, and never in temperatures below 50 degrees
- Paint the underside of each siding slat before painting the face
- Don't close a painted door until it's completely dry
- Always work from unpainted to painted areas
- When positioning a ladder, one-fourth of its length should be away from the house at ground level

And when you're finished, stand back by the curb and admire your work of art.

"If you've taken the time to do your homework and properly prepare your surface, then a paint job can become a paint pleasure," says Rapps.

To receive more information on paint and paint techniques, call the Dutch Boy Paints consumer help line at 1-800-828-5669.

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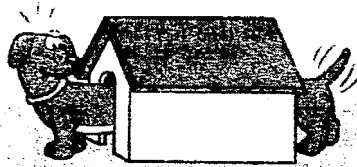
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Look For Structural Quality, Not Just Good Looks, When Buying A Home

With the warmer temperatures, many people begin searching for new homes or start working with their builders to custom design and construct the dwelling of their dreams. While looking at the beauty of the kitchen and master bedroom and bathroom in a model home, or while viewing plans, industry experts suggest buyers thoroughly examine the structural construction and materials to be used in the building of their homes.

"What it really comes down to is asking builders lots of questions and coming armed with information," explains David Boivin, vice president of sales and marketing for building products manufacturer CertainTeed Corporation.

For instance, while quality can be easily demonstrated via such items as a hardwood floor or brand of appliance, some things within a home can be hidden or overlooked because they are not easily seen. One exam-

ple of this is insulation. Insulation is usually not visible to the potential buyer, especially in sidewalls.

How does a homeowner then know what material is in the wall and what the quality of the product is?

This is especially important when you consider that insulation is a product that must be installed correctly otherwise thermal performance is sacrificed.

To ensure high quality insulation installations, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Research Center has developed a Certified Contractor Program, the first program of its kind where an independent third party certifies the installation of a building product in new homes.

"This program is setting new quality standards in the housing industry for the installation of insulation," explains Liza Bowles, president of the NAHB Research Center. "Now home

builders who use a certified insulation contractor and the buyers that purchase from these builders are assured of the overall quality of the insulation in their houses."

There are nearly 100 insulation contractors who have been certified in the program across the country and the NAHB Research Center is looking to expand the effort into other subcontracting fields.

Therefore, when looking at prospective new homes or discussing a custom home with your builder, ask him if he uses a certified contractor, as they have established a recognized quality system, effectively trained their employees and passed a series of stringent criteria in a thorough third-party audit.

For a brochure on the Certified Program and a list of certified insulation contractors nearest you call 1-800-782-8777 or visit us on the Internet at <http://www.certainteed.com>.

Wallcoverings

Continued from Page 4

"Just select the basic border or pattern that will establish the mood of the room and then look through the pre-matched coordinates for your secondary print or prints," advises Lazarow. "Some people like to include two wallcovering prints in a room. Most often, such coordinates are used above and below a chair rail. Borders are usually used at the ceiling line or a chair rail height, but they may also outline windows or doors."

For kitchens, Lazarow likes colorful borders with vegetable and fruit motifs, and for sidewalls, she likes sunny stripes or crisp gingham.

"There's no easier and less expensive way to give a kitchen a lift," she smiles.

Baths, too, can benefit from wallcoverings that promote the garden look, and here Lazarow

likes strong foliage patterns.

"Since you spend relatively little time in the bath, this is one room where a bold pattern doesn't tire the eye," she explains. "This is the place to bask in Hibiscus blooms, English ivy or French lilacs."

For elegant dining and living rooms, Lazarow recommends the subtlety of faux wallcoverings designs accentuated by borders.

"These designs mimic marble, faded stone exteriors, and other textured looks, and they are superb for adding subtle sophistication to any room," she notes.

"From a distance, they often appear as solid walls functioning as a neutral background, but up close, they add depth and a tactile quality as convincing as the real thing or custom-painted surfaces. Borders may be swags or friezes with floral or foliage motifs."

Coordinating fabrics for such

groups of designs are appropriately elegant. For example, one of the fabrics for the "Garden Walk" collection is a color-coordinated, subtle plaid with the rich texture of water-marked silk. And the fabric for "Hummingbird Hollow" is a gauzy tone-on-tone design.

For bedrooms, which people consider private domains, anything goes, from a textured grasscloth that creates a restful oasis to a wildly romantic floral that evokes dreams of perfect summer days.

"Wallcoverings have come a long way since the days of overwhelming cabbage roses," says Lazarow. "Today, their artistry and fashion presence make them welcome elements everywhere, and their performance is so much more impressive when one considers how affordable they are."

For information where to see garden-fresh wallcovering collections, contact Blonder Wallcoverings, 3950 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115-2795, 1 800 321 4070.

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Revitalize A Room By Installing, Then Painting A New Tile Ceiling

Looking for a fresh new way to revitalize an aging room? Look up!

Why? Because today's new generation of ceiling tiles offers exciting decorating possibilities that can set your home apart from the rest.

According to Thomas Hills Cook, Director of Interior Design at Armstrong World Industries, the country's largest manufacturer of residential ceilings, homeowners no longer have to settle for the same plain white ceiling their neighbors have. In fact, he says it is this growing desire to add character and personality to a room that is causing homeowners to focus more on their ceiling now than ever before.

"Homeowners often believe they have little choice but to live with one vast expanse of dry-wall ceiling, usually painted an off-white," he states. "As a result, the ceiling becomes the great unclaimed territory, the Alaska of most people's homes."

"Today, however, there's a wide variety of decorative ceiling tiles available that not only

add style, pattern and design to a room, but also can be painted to truly make the ceiling part of the overall decor. And, you don't have to be a Michelangelo to accomplish it."

Customizing Ceilings Is A Simple Three-Step Process

Representative of the ceiling choices Cook describes is a 12-inch by 12-inch tile from Armstrong called TinTile. This particular ceiling tile offers the look of a tin ceiling at a fraction of the cost and can be painted any color, including metallic finishes.

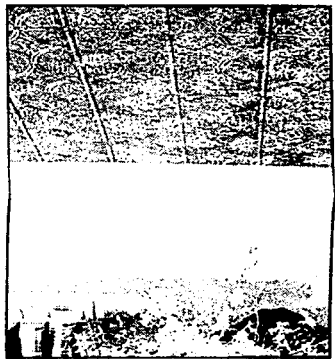
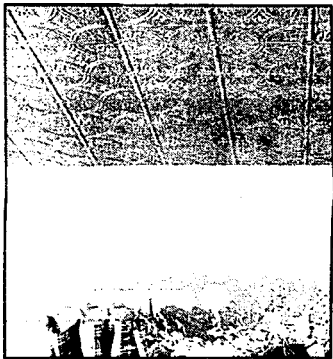
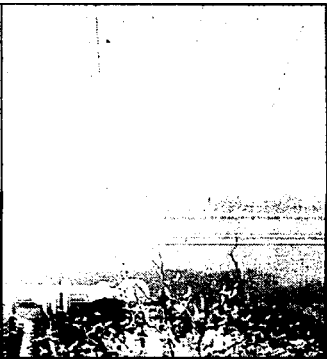
According to Cook, customizing a ceiling with ceiling tiles like these is a simple three-step process. First, install TinTile ceiling tiles directly over an existing drywall ceiling using adhesives, wood furring strips, Armstrong Furring Tape, or the metal track and clip system included in Armstrong ceiling tile installation kits. Most ceilings can be installed in a week-end.

Second, apply two coats of paint using a roller with a 1/4" nap, waiting 24 hours between

coats. Painting a tile ceiling after it has been installed is preferable. However, if your plans require that you must paint the ceiling tiles before installing them, Cook says be careful not to let the paint drip and accumulate on the side of the tiles. Otherwise, installation can be affected.

Third, if you use a metallic color and want to duplicate the patina that develops on tin ceilings as a result of age, simply mix dark green paint with a pale green paint and randomly dab the tiles with a natural sea sponge. Vary the placement of the paint and texture of the sponge to create an authentic look. The end result: a custom, interior ceiling finish that makes an ordinary room extraordinary.

For additional information on TinTile and other ceiling tiles that can be customized, visit www.ceiling.com on the Internet. Or, write to Armstrong Ceilings, P.O. Box 1000, Plymouth, MI 48170 or call 1-800-233-3823, and ask for a free copy of "Ceiling Solutions For Your Home."



Customizing a ceiling with ceiling tiles is a simple three step process. In this example, Armstrong TinTile ceiling tiles were first installed over the existing drywall ceiling (left). Next, two coats of copper paint were applied using a roller (center). Finally, green paint was sponge painted onto the base coat to obtain a patina effect (right). The end result: a custom ceiling finish that sets the room apart.

Natural Gas Grilling Is Easy And Convenient

Natural gas grills provide a convenient, economical way to give foods a savory grilled flavor, according to the American Gas Association.

Natural gas grills eliminate the mess and long warm-up time of charcoal grills. They draw fuel directly from a home's natural gas line, eliminating the need to refill a tank as well as the risk of running out of fuel, A.G.A. says.

Outdoor gas grills also keep heat out of the kitchen, thus

placing less demand on home cooling systems.

A.G.A. recommends several tips to save energy when using a gas grill:

- Limit pre-heat time.
- Use only one burner on dual-burner grill, unless both burners are needed.
- Prepare slow-cooking foods on the grill to keep heat out of the kitchen and to save on air conditioning.
- Cook with the grill cover closed to shorten cooking time

and to enhance the smoked flavor.

- Cook several foods or an entire meal at one time.
- Reduce "burn-off" cleaning time.
- Thaw frozen foods before grilling.
- Keep the grill clean and properly maintained, following instructions in the owner's manual.

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Energy Tight Home Ideal For Heat Recovery Ventilators

The energy conscious homeowner of today has made great strides in seeing to it that the home is tightly sealed. Insulation, caulking, energy efficient doors and windows and other measures have been taken to help ensure that the home's heating and cooling systems work as efficiently and economically as possible.

While these measures have succeeded in saving energy and money, they have also created new problems.

By making homes nearly airtight, the homeowner prevents the free exchange of air between the inside and out. As a result, moisture and other pollutants are trapped indoors, posing a threat to building materials and spoiling the indoor environment.

To get a better idea of just how serious this problem is, consider all of the unwanted elements which are put into the air within the house in a normal day.

The bathroom, kitchen, laundry room and other areas can create excessive heat, moisture, odors, grease, aerosols and other pollutants which can damage structural materials, create an unpleasant atmosphere, and, in some cases, might even be health-threatening.

The need, then is to facilitate an exchange of air between the inside and the outside. This exchange will remove the indoor pollutants, cleansing the air and creating a comfortable, healthful indoor environment. The problem is how to create this exchange without sacrificing the energy efficiency which homeowners have strived to achieve. The effective and economical solution is a heat recovery ventilator (HRV).

The HRV can help achieve a balanced indoor atmosphere year-round, while offering significant energy saving advantages.

Heat recovery ventilators are designed to draw out polluted indoor air and replace it with fresh outdoor air, while retaining as much as 80 percent of the exhaust air energy.

The HRV features twin blowers, one to pull out stale air, the other to pull in fresh air. The two air streams never mix, but heat energy is transferred from one to the other to heat or cool the home.

In winter, cold outdoor air enters the HRV and passes through a heat exchanger where it is warmed from the stale air which is being removed from the house. Only the heat is withdrawn from the outgoing air, while moisture and other pollutants are exhausted to the outside. The fresh, heated air then enters the home.

In the summer, the process is reversed. Warm air enters the chamber and passes through the HRV where heat is extracted. That heat is then transferred to the outgoing air stream and is removed, along with other pollutants in the stale, indoor air.

The fresh, cooled air is then allowed to enter the home.

The HRVs themselves are highly energy efficient and can operate all day long for the cost of lighting two lightbulbs. For that reason, and because they conserve most of the energy used by a home's heating and cooling system, they are ideal in meeting the homeowners need for a quiet, efficient air-cleansing system.

The HRVs are equipped with a variable speed control switch which makes it possible to provide the varying degrees of ventilation necessary in all conditions.

The heat recovery ventilators are available in a wide range of capacities suited to any house size. Their compact size allows for easy installation without taking up too much indoor space. There are also wall units which are designed for outdoor installation.

Effective usage of the HRV requires installation of a series of indoor vents to freshen the air throughout the house. Stale air returns are placed in key areas such as the bathroom, kitchen and laundry rooms, to collect moisture-laden, polluted air and flush it out. Fresh air distributor ducts are located throughout the house to provide all areas with clean air.

The HRVs are equipped with air filters which remove dust, pollen and other matter from the air before they can enter the home.

A range of HRV designs exist to meet the needs of various homes and heating/cooling systems. In addition, options such as dehumidistat controls and air flow monitors are available.

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Survival Tips - What Homeowners Must Know When Disasters Strike

With insured property losses in the United States topping \$32 billion annually, a natural disaster, accident or criminal act that causes property damage to your home can be devastating – even though you may be well insured. That's why it's critical to have a disaster plan in place, so you know what to do when a crisis occurs.

Paul W. Davis Systems, Inc., one of the nation's leading property damage restoration companies, offers these tips for homeowners to deal with disasters while waiting for expert assistance.

Water, Water Everywhere! When Water Damages Your Home

It doesn't have to be a major disaster to seem like one. When a pipe bursts, a roof leaks, or a heavy rain causes flooding and you're faced with dealing with water damage, either minor or major, it's often difficult to think clearly. Doing the right things can control the damage, while doing the wrong things can exacerbate the situation and even increase your losses.

Do:

- Disconnect all electrical power to affected areas.

- Stop the flow of water if possible. For example, if the problem is a broken pipe or backed up plumbing, turn the water off at the master shut-off valve.

- Remove as much of the standing water as you can as quickly – but with care and caution – as possible.

- Place furniture on aluminum foil or wood blocks to prevent further damage to both the furniture and the carpet or flooring. This also allows the carpet to dry more quickly.

- Remove all cushions, rugs, books, paintings and other similar items to a place with good air circulation where they can dry faster and mold is less likely to develop.

- Remove valuable paintings and pictures from wet walls. Transfer all art objects to a safe place.

- Open all drawers and doors, including closets and cabinets, for maximum aeration and drying. Open suitcases and luggage to dry, in sunlight if possible.

- Hang furs and leather goods to dry separately at room temperature, then take them to a dry cleaner that specializes in their treatment.

Don't:

- Do not use any electrical appliances such as fans, hair dryers, or vacuums while the floor on which you are standing is still wet.

- Do not turn on ceiling fixtures if the ceiling is wet.

- Do not enter rooms where the ceiling is very wet because the plaster could fall and cause injury.

- Do not use newspaper to absorb moisture; soggy paper is difficult to work with, and the newspaper will leave stains.

- Do not leave colored items of any kind on wet or damp floors or carpets.

- Do not walk on carpets more than absolutely necessary until they have completely dried.

Once The Fire is Out

Few things are more devastating than the experience of seeing your home damaged by fire. With the direct damage from the flames and the indirect damage from smoke and water, even a small kitchen fire can create a big mess. But once the flames are out and the fire trucks have departed, what should you do?

- Call your insurance agent or company adjustor immediately and begin the claims process.

- Remove all pets to a clean, safe environment.

- If your electricity has been turned off for safety reasons, empty your refrigerator and freezer and prop the doors open. This will keep mold and odors from forming.

- Do not use any of your electrical appliances that were either plugged in at the time of the fire or that may have been damaged by the heat, smoke or water, until they have been checked out and determined safe by a service technician.

- Protect your plumbing if you are unable to occupy your home temporarily. If you are in a northern climate and there is a possibility of freezing, call a plumber to drain the plumbing system and winterize commodes with antifreeze. Do not leave water in toilet bowls, sinks or anywhere that might be damaged if the water freezes.

- Close connecting doors to localize smoke odors as much as possible.

- When you are in the house, open windows and ventilate as much as possible; however, do not leave the property unattended with the windows open.

- If the furnace and/or air conditioning system is being used, cover air registers with cheese cloth to limit the circulation of odors.

- Wash plants with mild soap and water, cleaning both sides of the leaves.

- Do not consume exposed food items or canned goods which have been subjected to excessive heat.

- Do not try to clean walls, ceilings, or absorbent surfaces like upholstered furniture and drapes yourself; this is a task best left to trained professionals with the proper equipment. Also, do not use upholstered furniture until a professional restoration expert has checked it out and declared it clean and safe.

In many cases, the smoke, water and aftermath of a fire is as much or more damaging to a home than the fire itself. You can minimize this damage by doing the right things and not doing the wrong things before the professionals arrive. If you are in doubt, do nothing until



you consult with a professional.

When Vandals Strike

Vandals can strike for a variety of reasons: bored youngsters, someone with a grudge, a gang or fraternity initiation. Regardless of the motivation, if your home or office is the target of vandals, you need to know what to do – and not do – to expedite the clean-up and avoid making a bad situation worse.

Here are some tips for what to do when vandals strike:

1. Notify the police and call your insurance agent to get the claims process underway.

2. Take photographs of the damage.

3. If the vandals used eggs or other spoiled food items, wash or hose down the exterior of the building before the materials dry and bake onto the surface.

4. Sweep or vacuum up small pieces of broken glass and other sharp materials to avoid potential injury.

5. Scrape up and then blot – but don't rub – any freshly spilled food from carpets and upholstery.

6. Retrieve and retain all broken pieces of porcelain and art objects.

7. Arrange for a knowledgeable disaster clean up and restoration service to deal with the mess.

As critical as knowing what to do is knowing what not to do, and that includes:

1. Do not try to remove ink or paint spills. Proper, effective removal requires expert knowledge of the chemical components of the material used. If containers were left on the

Continued on Page 15

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Building A New Home? Shut Out Unwanted Noise

The decision to build a home is an exciting time. It is also a time that requires important planning with your builder to ensure the home — most likely your largest investment ever — is constructed exactly the way you want it, with all of today's modern "extras."

For instance, if you work at home, as more and more people today do, a quiet atmosphere for your in-home office becomes a top priority, so soundproofing is something you'll want to speak with your builder about.

One of the most economical ways to accomplish this is with basic home insulation. It can be relatively simple and inexpensive, and can add greatly to the comfort and value of your home.

Controlling Noise
Materials placed in walls and ceilings of a home can provide a barrier to sound from the outside and from room to room. Some materials, like lead, are excellent sound absorbers but aren't practical for wrapping rooms. Other alternatives exist, but experts

say fiber glass insulation is best because it absorbs sound and is very inexpensive.

When most people think about insulation, they think about insulating the exterior walls. This is important for controlling sound from the outside. But ask your builder to insulate the interior walls as well with CertainTeed Noise Reducer™, a special fiber glass insulation product which helps reduce noise between rooms inside the house.

Ceilings and floors are also vital areas to reduce noise from overhead or below.

For added sound control, ask your builder to insulate your heating, and air conditioning ducts. If you have metal ducts, have them lined with fiber glass insulation, or consider a high-efficiency system made from ToughGard™ rigid fiber glass duct board.

PRACTICAL TIPS:
In addition to insulation, here are some additional "sound" steps to discuss with your

builder. Ask him to:

- Install thick carpeting and padding throughout your home to reduce impact sound.
- Caulk around windows and use weatherstripping at the bottoms of doors.
- Choose solid wood, not hollow, core interior doors where privacy is demanded.
- Use thick glass, insulating glass and storm windows to help reduce sound transmission through windows.
- Select quiet, high-quality appliances.
- Install telephone hook-ups, doorbells, intercoms or audio built-ins on interior walls.
- Caulk holes made by wiring, which penetrate connecting structures, with elastic non-hardening caulk or dry packing.
- Seal openings around ceiling fixtures.

For a free booklet called "Practical Tips for a Quieter Home," contact the CertainTeed Home Institute, P.O. Box 860, Valley Forge, PA 19482, or call 1 800 782 8777.

Once-Over

Continued from Page 3

If nails protrude, lightly tap them flush with the siding. If nails are overdriven, fill in with a high-quality caulk. Also, apply new caulk in places where the old is loose or cracked, after removing old caulk.

Is your paint cracking, flaking, eroding, or is the color simply out of date? A fresh coat may be the best solution. Be sure to clean your siding prior to repainting. If any substrate is bare, apply primer and follow with two high-quality topcoats. Also, remember to paint the bottom edge of the siding as well as the face. Carefully select your new color to ensure lasting

appeal.

"Lifestyles influence color. In today's working world, the hectic pace makes us seek comfort and sanctuary at home," says designer Pittman. "Colors are taking their cue from nature. Brick and stone elements and generous roof designs require siding colors that complement and integrate with these natural materials."


For example, tans, buffs, khakis and warm grays work very well. Color elements and craftsmanship elements will tie it all together. Adds Pittman, "Siding color lightened five times becomes the perfect trim shade. Pastels are returning, but more like faded, stronger colors, rather than the chalkier pastels of yesterday."

Maybe it's time to replace your siding altogether. Hardboard sidings resist the denting, cracking, rusting or corroding to which other sidings are susceptible. Masonite Corporation's Colorlok or SuperSide® sidings are excellent alternatives.

If you prefer a custom color or dramatic painting scheme, consider a siding that comes factory primed and ready to paint, such as SuperSide, which is available in weathered pine, rough-sawn cedar and classic smooth design styles. SuperSide's color is limited only by your imagination.

Finally, Realtor Diffley reminds us of the number one rule of home maintenance. "Don't get behind. Stay abreast of what needs to be done."

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Radiant Floor Heat Provides Comfortable, Efficient Heat

In today's busy world, your home is your sanctuary, and naturally, you want to provide the best for your family. This expectation shouldn't end with your heating system.

Having a warm, comfortable and energy-efficient home is something that we all strive for. Many homeowners are enjoying the comfort of a heating technique currently being used throughout North America that does exactly that.

Radiant floor heat (RFH) is a proven technology that works by circulating warm water through pipes installed in or under the floor. The heated water flowing through the pipes gently warms the floor, which in turn heats the objects and occupants in the room.

"Hydronic RFH can be used virtually anywhere traditional heating systems are used," explains Bill Johansen, heating and plumbing product manager at REHAU, a Leesburg, Virginia based manufacturer of hydronic RFH systems. "It is suitable for both commercial and residential projects and can be easily integrated into new or existing buildings. It can be installed either as a sole source of heat distribution or in conjunction with other heating systems. Today, close to 100 million feet of pipe is installed in RFH systems annually throughout North America.

"Traditional heating systems must warm the air in a room, which in turn warms the occupants. To maintain indoor comfort levels, air must reach temperatures of 120° F or higher; then it must be circulated, resulting in drafty rooms with frequent temperature fluctuations. This is especially true in rooms with cathedral ceilings and large rooms. Because warm air rises, the heat migrates toward the ceiling, away from the areas where it is needed most.

RFH systems concentrate heat near the floor level, warming people and objects directly, an effect similar to standing in direct sunlight. By warming entire floor areas, RFH efficient-

ly raises the temperature of everything in the room. Homeowners can actually lower the thermostat setting without sacrificing comfort, and in turn, can reduce heating bills up to 30 percent.

"Ceilings and walls can also be used for radiant heating using the same techniques that are used to install floor heating," adds Johansen.

How It Works

In a typical hydronic RFH application, water temperature is regulated by an out floor sensor that signals a weather compensating control to adjust the water temperature coming from a hot water source—such as a boiler, water heater, solar collector or geothermal system — as outside temperature fluctuates.

A motorized mixing valve regulates the release of heated water into a manifold and through a carefully engineered pattern of pipe below the floor surface. The manifold helps to regulate the amount of water, and therefore the amount of heat, each area receives.

RFH Features & Benefits

Aside from lower fuel bills, RFH offers other advantages for homeowners. The self-contained system operates quietly and cleanly; there are no noisy fans and no blown air to distribute dust, pollen or other allergens. By eliminating ductwork and registers, homeowners are free to decorate as they wish and place furniture anywhere throughout a room.

Flexibility is another important RFH attribute. RFH pipes are divided into different circuits, each covering a specific section of a room. Depending on the design, each room can be covered by either single circuit or multiple pipe circuits. Water entering the manifold is distributed to each circuit.

The manifold system, typically located in an accessible wall cavity, provides a series of simple valves that regulate water flow in each circuit. Using this system, homeowners can precisely control water flow to all portions of the home, thus

affecting the amount of heat going to each area. Many homeowners keep bathrooms warmer than other parts of the house and enjoy stepping out of the shower onto a heated floor. Pipes also can be run through wall cavities and towel racks for heated towels after bathing. RFH is also well suited to homes with cathedral ceilings and great rooms.

RFH systems offer a number of advantages. As with any home project, there are points that consumers should consider before deciding if RFH is right for them.

RFH systems are generally more expensive to install than traditional heating systems, however, a large portion of this cost can be recouped through lower utility bills. Radiant floor heating systems are unmatched in comfort, efficiency and flexibility.

Continued on Page 12

See "FLOOR HEAT"

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Floor Heat

Continued from Page 11
Snow And Ice Melt Systems
Employing essentially the same technology as radiant floor heat are hydronic snow and ice melt (SIM) systems. SIM systems circulate heated fluid through pipes underneath sidewalks, driveways, patios and other outdoor pathways, keeping them free of hazardous snow and ice. Of course, an RFH system does not have to be installed in conjunction with a SIM system.

Homeowners can elect to have RFH, SIM or both.

System Considerations

• Installation

Once homeowners decide to install a RFH system, a number of decisions should be made before installation begins, starting with the type of RFH installation that is required. There are two RFH installation techniques: the best option depends on individual circumstances. A "poured" installation involves covering the RFH pipe in con-

crete or gypsum cement. When the system is activated, the cement floor retains the heat generated by the RFH System and distributes it evenly throughout the floor.

In instances where a poured material is not practical, such as when remodeling an existing room with RFH, a "dry" installation can be used. This involves attaching RFH pipes underneath the floor surface, in the joist space, for example. The performance of a dry RFH system can be enhanced using reflective plates installed around the pipe to help distribute heat throughout the floor.

• Choosing The Right Pipe

After the RFH installation technique is decided, homeowners must select which type of pipe they wish to use. Today, most installers use a polymer pipe called cross-linked polyethylene (PEX).

PEX pipe is manufactured using a chemical process that causes the pipe's molecular structure to rearrange itself into a cross-linked, three-dimensional pattern.

The reconfigured material is much stronger and more durable than pipe manufactured using other methods.

The molecular arrangements in PEX pipe can be explained by comparing a split rail and chain-link fence.

A split-rail fence can be quite strong, but affords little flexibility: the material will crack when sufficient force is applied to it. On the other hand, the flexibility of a chain-link fence allows it to absorb additional force. As a result of this superior flexibility, PEX is generally more capable of withstanding temperature and pressure fluctuations over the long term. PEX pipe has been used in RFH systems for nearly 25 years.

"REHAU offers a 25-year warranty on its pipe," continues Johansen, "and rigorous laboratory and field testing have shown it will last much longer under normal conditions. Most other PEX manufacturers offer similar guarantees."

• Floor Coverings

RFH systems radiate heat upward from the floor, therefore, the material covering the floor surface will affect system performance.

Thicker floor coverings, such as carpeting, usually have greater insulation values than thinner floor coverings such as tile, and as a result, restrict heat flow. Insulation properties are measured in "R-values": the higher a material's R-value, the more heat-retarding capabilities it has.

Heat flow to high R-value areas must be increased to maintain comfort levels. Fortunately, many of today's popular floor coverings, such as tile and hardwood, are low R-value materials.

Also, as RFH increases in popularity, manufacturers are offering more products that work well in conjunction with these systems.

There are two generally accepted methods of increasing heat output to an area using RFH, by increasing the water temperature or by placing the pipes closer together during installation. While increasing the water temperature is a viable option, there is a limit to how hot the water can become without damaging the floor covering materials.

Floor temperatures that are too high can often feel uncomfortable. Also, pipe spacing should be close enough so that homeowners can easily switch to a floor covering with a higher insulation factor after the system is installed, if they choose to do so. Once pipes are covered in cement or attached under a floor surface, relocating them is difficult.

"A properly designed RFH system can work effectively with most floor coverings," said Johansen. "Homeowners just need to select their floor coverings keeping the efficiency of RFH systems in mind. Let your installers know which floor coverings you have selected and be sure to let them know of any changes."

Continued on Page 13

See "FLOOR HEAT"

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Floor Heat

Continued from Page 12

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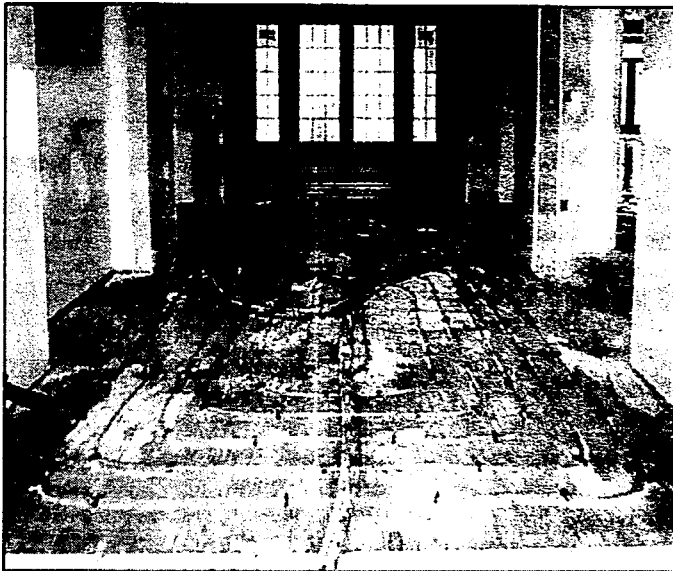
Installing a RFH system is definitely not a weekend "do-it-yourself" project even for the most ambitious home improvement expert. RFH pipes and equipment usually cannot be purchased at local home

improvement or hardware stores, and the complexity of RFH and SIM systems require homeowners to enlist the help of a professional, experienced installer. Still, by understanding the available options, homeowners can work with their contractor to design the system that fits their needs and their budget.

"REHAU" recommends working with a contractor experienced in RFH design and installation," explains Johansen. "Improperly installed RFH systems are usually not easily remedied."

Homeowners can contact RFH manufacturers to find qualified installers in their area. The Radiant Panel Association (RPA) in Loveland, Colorado, is also a good resource for homeowners with questions about hydronic heating systems. REHAU can be contacted at 1 800 247-9445 or via the Internet at www.rehau-na.com. The RPA can be reached at 1 970 613 0100 or, at www.rpa-info.com.

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REHAU's Radiant Floor Heating System with durable cross-linked polyethylene (Pex) pipe in position for a "poured" installation, which involves covering the RFH pipe in concrete or gypsum cement as below.



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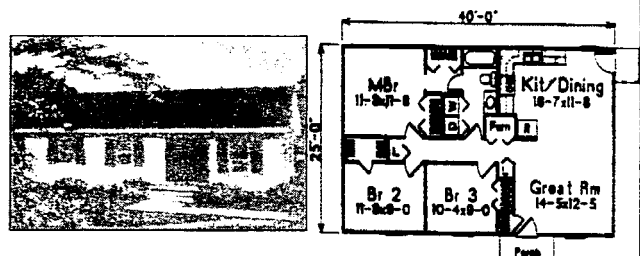


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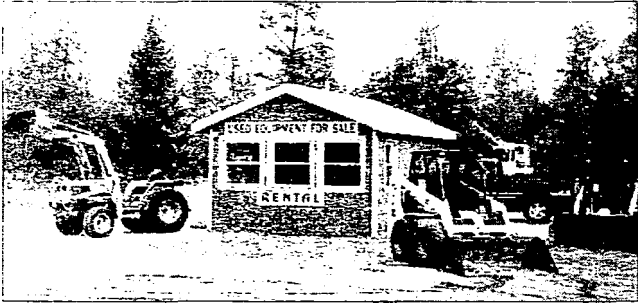
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Ten Energy Saving Ideas

Using energy wisely can reduce consumption and save money on utility bills, according to the American Gas Association. Here are some tips:

1. Seal leaks around doors, windows and other openings, such as pipes or ducts — with caulking or weather-stripping.

2. Set thermostats between 65 and 70 degrees in the winter, at least 5 degrees lower when sleeping, and at 58 degrees when away from home for more than a few hours. (Warmer temperatures are recommended for homes with ill or elderly persons or infants.)

3. Set water heater temperatures at 140 degrees (at 120 degrees in homes with infants or elderly persons to guard against accidental scalding), and install water-flow restrictors in showerheads and faucets.

4. Change filters or clean the

filters in heating and cooling units twice a year. Close vents and doors in unused rooms. If pipes or ducts run through unheated areas, insulate them.

5. Use drapes, shutters, awnings, shade trees, glass with reflective film or solar screens to keep sunlight out in the summer and let it in during the winter.

6. Check to see if attic and basement (or crawl space) have the recommended level of insulation.

7. If you have a woodburning fireplace, consider installing a natural gas fireplace insert, which can save on energy costs compared with wood. A gas fireplace also will dramatically reduce the air pollution created from burning wood.

8. Consider storm or thermal windows and doors or double paned glass. A less-expensive alternative is plastic sheeting,

which can be temporarily fastened over doors and windows to retain heat or air conditioning.

9. Be sure that dishwashers, washing machines and clothes dryers are fully loaded before running.

10. When buying new appliances, compare energy efficiency ratings and annual operating costs. A slightly higher initial cost for a high-efficiency appliance could pay itself back in a very short time through energy savings and lower utility bills.

How To Select A Generator

Rare are those times when electrical power is interrupted. But when it happens, a standby generator is a lifesaver, especially for livestock operations. To properly size and select a generator that fits your particular needs, the National Food and Energy Council offers these tips.

First, estimate your essential power needs by listing each major heating, lighting, and motor load. Record the size of each load in terms of kilowatts. Then identify those loads that can be interrupted for extended periods, such as grain drying, manure removal and some lighting. This will help determine if a smaller capacity, a portable generator can be "shared" among loads that can be delayed or sequenced.

The number and size of motors that must be started is very important to this evaluation. Because a motor's starting current is 4 to 10 times greater than its running current, the generator must be sized to handle the starting current of the largest motor, plus other loads operating at the same time. Once you have estimated the minimum required loads, determine whether you need a tractor-driven or stationary engine-driven unit. For fan ventilated livestock or poultry operations that are left unattended, an engine-driven generator (starts automatically when power is uninterrupted) is the best bet.

Regardless of the type of generator you select, all units must be wired with a double-throw switch to completely disconnect the generator from the power supplier's electrical grid. This switch prevents the flow of current back into the utility's lines, which could electrocute linemen working to restore power.

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Ann Arbor Spring Garden & Flower Show offers abundance of landscaping ideas

The grips of winter finally ebb and the harbingers of spring slowly begin to appear in the landscape, a crocus peaks into the sun, a robin hops across the lawn and the 2000 Ann Arbor Spring Flower and Garden Show opens its doors with over 20,000 square feet of landscaped display gardens, including a mystical twilight entry garden.

The show will be held March 30-31 and April 1-2, at the Washtenaw County Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road in Ann Arbor.

Along with beautifully created gardens, an antique section, shopping and daily lectures (topics include herbs, roses, butterfly gardening, garden statuary, and more), there will be special gardens for children. Imagine the delight in your child's eyes as they come upon a children's "Secret Garden" tucked away somewhere in the show.

Another special "Fantasy Garden" created by children along with the Junior League of Ann Arbor promises to spark imaginations of all ages.

Home Depot will sponsor workshops for children where they will be able to build a birdhouse on Saturday and Sunday, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The fun doesn't end there... You can also start your own seed garden with compost in its own special pot. The clown, jugglers, and face painting may just be too fun to miss. Visit the petting farm and yack with a yak, show mama the llama, and pet a miniature horse of course.

Also featured at the show:

- Informative seminars presented hourly each day, free with admission;
- Special "Antiques Garden" with urns, fountains, statuary and garden accessories;
- Entire building of plants, trees and shrubs for sale;

• Marketplace buildings with great ideas and garden merchandise from around the country;

- Loads of family activities;
- Love the display gardens? Every tree, bush, flower and plant will be for sale at 4 p.m. on Sunday;

• And, daily door prize drawings, including a lawn tractor.

Food concessions and acres of free parking will be available at the show.

In all, seven buildings will be full of garden fun and new ideas for Spring 2000.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$9 for senior citizens, and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Tickets and more information are available by phone at (734) 434-8004 or visit the show's web site at www.aaflower-show.com.

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Survival Tips

Continued from Page 9

premises, save them so the restoration expert can analyze the contents and use the appropriate removal techniques.

2. Do not try to use damaged lamps or other electrical appliances and devices until they

have been checked and confirmed safe by an electrician.

3. Do not attempt to remove large pieces of glass from window panes or picture frames.

4. Do not discard pieces of broken furniture because restoration experts can often repair damaged items very effectively. In fact it's a good idea to not discard anything

until the insurance adjuster has completed his work and the clean-up process is ready to begin.

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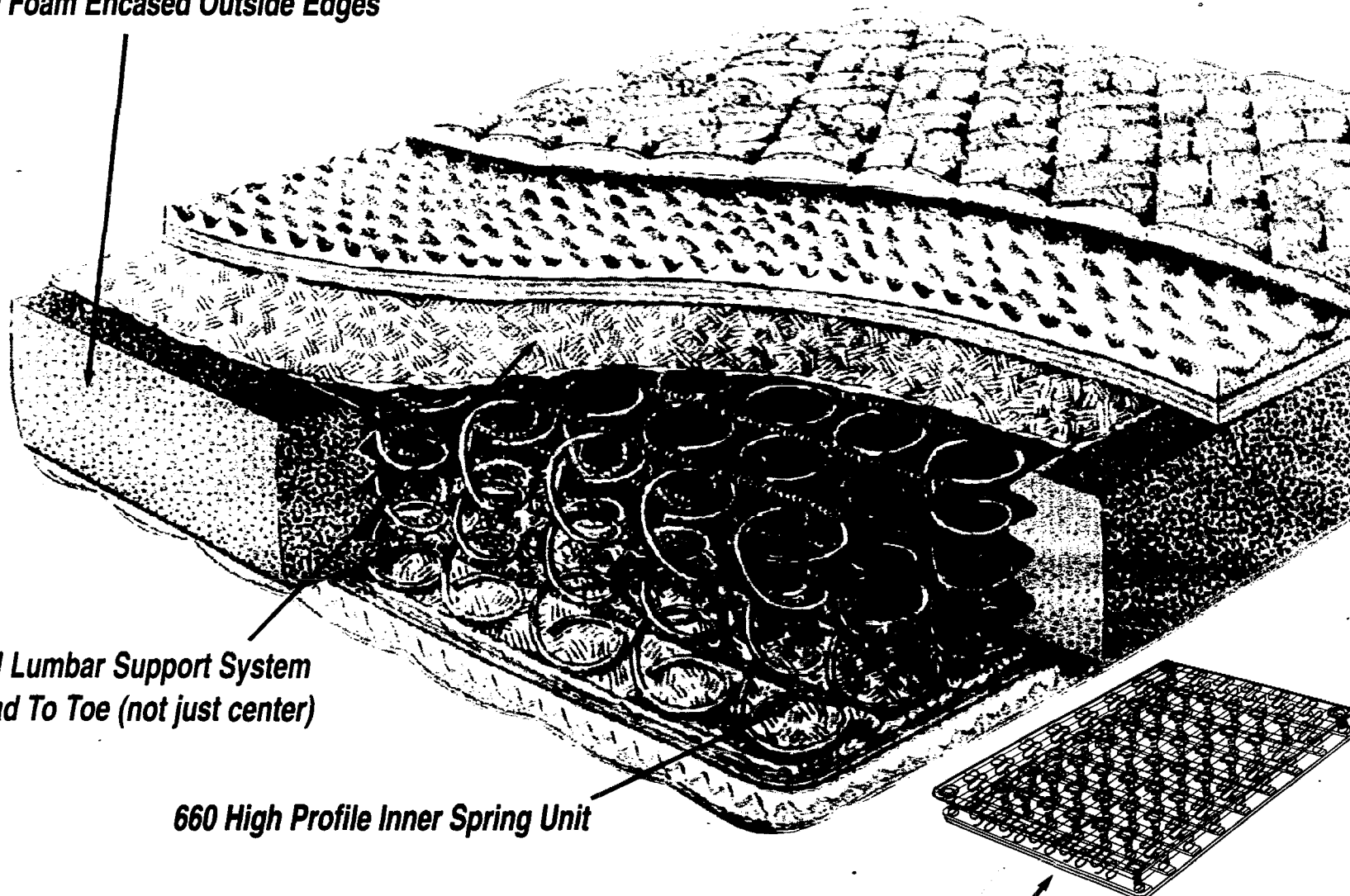
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